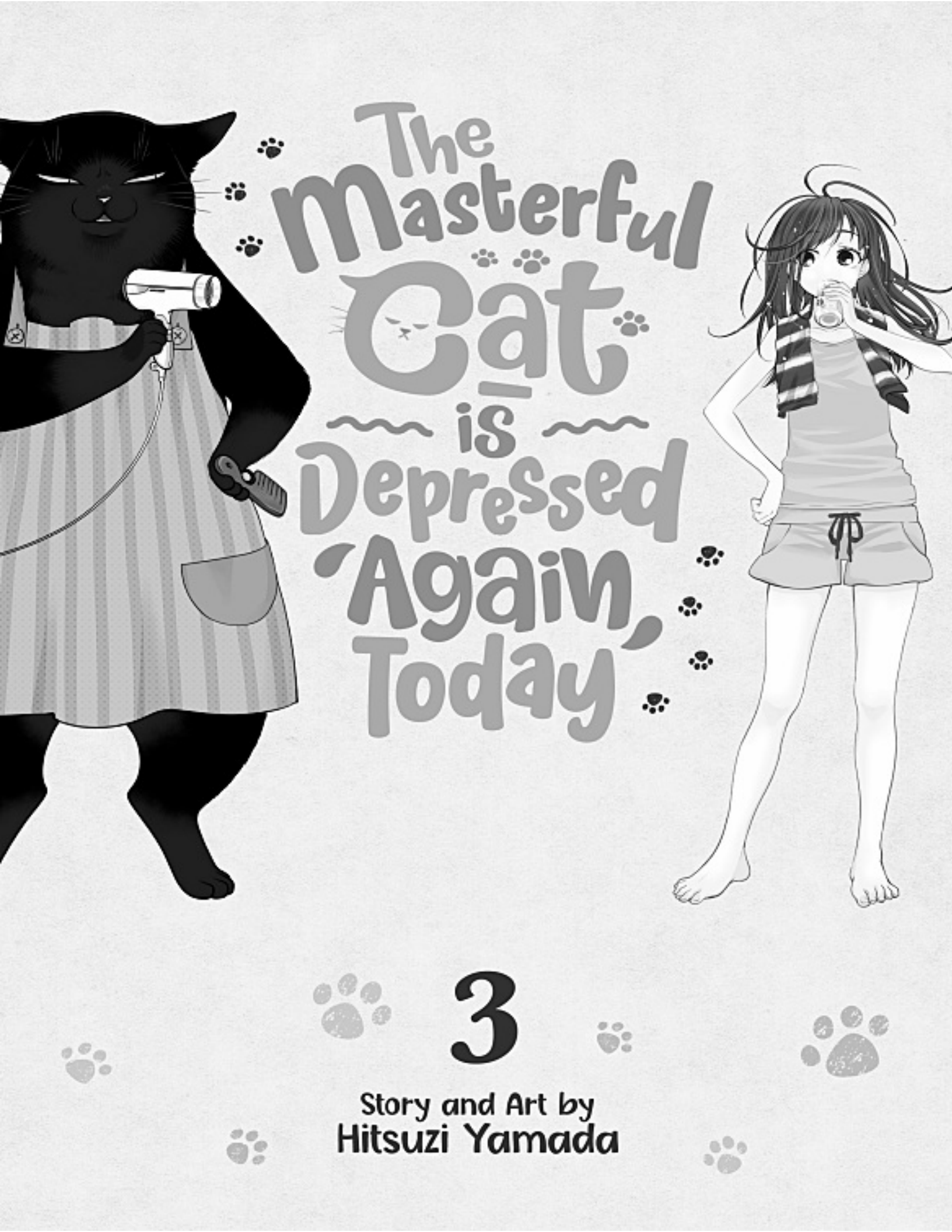
The Masterful Cat is Depressed 'Again, Today'
3
Story and Art by
Hitsuzi Yamada

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today
3
By Hitsuzi Yamada

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today

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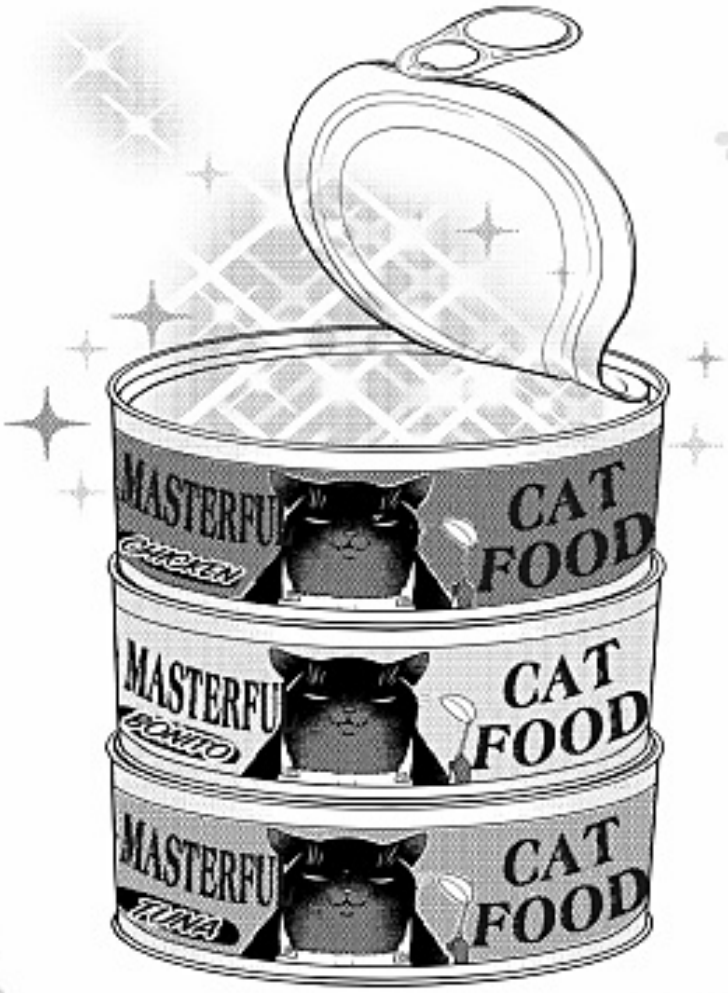
BONUS
YUKICHI LEAVES THE FUKUZAWA HOUSE 121



BRRRING
BRRRING
BEEP
HELLO! I'M NOT HOME RIGHT NOW.
PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AFTER THE BEEP.
HELLO? YUKICHI?
SORRY, I WON'T BE HOME FOR DINNER TONIGHT.
SOME-THING CAME UP...
23 CAN 23
CHEERS!!
YAAAY!
AH HA HA HA!! SORRY FOR SPRINGING THIS PARTY ON YOU OUT OF THE BLUE, BUT YOU SURE MANAGED TO GET A LOT OF PEOPLE TOGETHER!
WELL, YOU ARE A POPULAR MAN, DIRECTOR NARITA.
BAH HA HA! YOU'RE ALWAYS SUCH A SWEET TALKER, ORIZUKA!!
ALL RIGHT! LET'S DRINK TILL THE SUN COMES UP!
Y-YEAH!!

THANK YOU!! GOOD NIGHT!

ALL OF YOU GET HOME SAFE AS WELL.

HMMNYAH.

PLEASE DON'T FALL ASLEEP, DIRECTOR!!

OH, OKAY! GOOD NIGHT!

ALL RIGHT, I'M HEADING OFF, TOO!

I WAS WORRIED HOW IT WOULD TURN OUT WHEN THEY SAID WE WERE GOING OUT TONIGHT...

LOOKS LIKE WE'LL BE ABLE TO CATCH THE LAST TRAIN!

WHAT A CHAMP!

HOW IS SHE NOT EVEN THE SLIGHTEST BIT DRUNK AFTER ALL THAT?

THEY BASICALLY SAVED US FROM ALCOHOL POISONING BY KEEPING HIM BUSY.

THANK GOD SHE AND ORIZUKA WERE SITTING NEXT TO THE DIRECTOR.

FUKUZAWA-SAN HELD HER LIQUOR WELL, AS ALWAYS.

SIGH.

I MISSED YOUUUU!

WHUMP

I'M BAAACK, YUKI-CHAAN!

*Miso soup with freshwater clams is a traditional hangover cure in Japan.

NOD
NOD
SCRUB SCRUB
MEANWHILE, I'VE GOT MEETINGS FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!
THE DIRECTOR'S GOTTA HAVE A LIVER OF STEEL. I REFILLED HIS CUP OVER AND OVER AGAIN AND HE JUST KEPT DOWNING THEM!
CLEANING.
ON STANDBY IN WATERPROOF MODE IN CASE SHE FALLS.
QUIET...
...
SPLISH SPLASH
PSHAAAA
SHOWER.
GRAPE SUGAR TABLETS (TO PREVENT HANGOVER).
MUNCH MUNCH
BWOO
DRYING.
THAT SMELLS SO GOOD~!
SLOSH...
HOT ROOIBOS TEA (HELPS PUFFINESS).

NNNGH.
MMFH.
ゴ RUB
ゴ RUB
FULL-BODY MAS-SAGE.

SNORE!

SNOOORE!
WHEW!

STAAARE
SHHF
SHHF
ZZZ
ZZZ
FACE MASK (FIVE MIN-UTES).

PSHH
PSHH
LEATHER DEO-DORIZER SPRAY.
きゅっ
SQUEAK
きゅっ
SQUEAK
fshhhhh
STEAM IRONING.
HOT EYE MASK.
SPORTS DRINK.
SNUGGLE...

STRETCH
YAAAAAWN!
MORNING, YUKICHI~!
NNGH. SORRY, I THINK I'LL PASS ON BREAKFAST TODAY.
BATHROOM...
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
MY STOMACH ISN'T FEELING TOO GOOD.
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
WAIT, WHAT IS THAT?! IT SMELLS AMAZING!
NEVER MIND! I'LL EAT!
RICE WITH GREEN TEA AND CLAMS (PICKLED VEGGIES ON THE SIDE)
AHH, I CAN FEEL IT WORKING.
HEH.
CLAMS, ONION, AND GINGER!
THE HOLY TRINITY OF HANG-OVER CURES!

MORNING, YURI-CHAN.
OH!
ALSO, I PREPPED THE CONFERENCE ROOM ALREADY.
WHAT'S WITH THE FACE? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST!
HMM?
EEP!
G-GOOD MORNING...
HAVE SOME GRAPE SUGAR TABLETS.
AHH, I SEE. HUNGOVER, HUH?
THROB THROB
YOUR PROCESSING POWER IS WAY STRONGER THAN MINE.
DO YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF UPGRADED LIVER?
GET IT TOGETHER! YOU'RE FREAKING ME OUT!!
SPACEY
MM? OH, YES. I WILL TREASURE THESE DEARLY.

YOU'RE REALLY PACKING THOSE AWAY.

NO WAY!

I SHOULD SET UP A SURVEILLANCE CAMERA IN YOUR APARTMENT.

MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH

SHAKA

NOT EVEN A PUFFY EYE OR PATCH OF DRY SKIN IN SIGHT.

HOW DO YOU *DO* IT? YOU DRANK SO MUCH AND YET HERE YOU ARE, AT WORK, AS CHIPPER AS EVER.

HUH ?!

FLINCH

MUTTER

CAT.

U-UMM, THAT'S BECAUSE, *UH...* MY CAT REALLY LIKES LINT ROLLING!

AH!

O-OH, THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT?!

NO WRINKLE OR SMELL OR ANY-THING!

I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WAS WEIRD! HOW?!.

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY CAT HAIR ON YOU!

HUH?! TH-THEY ARE?!

REALLY?!

YOU LIKE THAT?

PURRRRRR

AHH! NO, I GET IT. SOME CATS ARE LIKE THAT.

N-NOT THAT *HE* USES THE LINT ROLLER, OF COURSE!

I GUESS SOME CATS ARE LIKE THAT.
STARE...
?
ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL

CAN 23 END

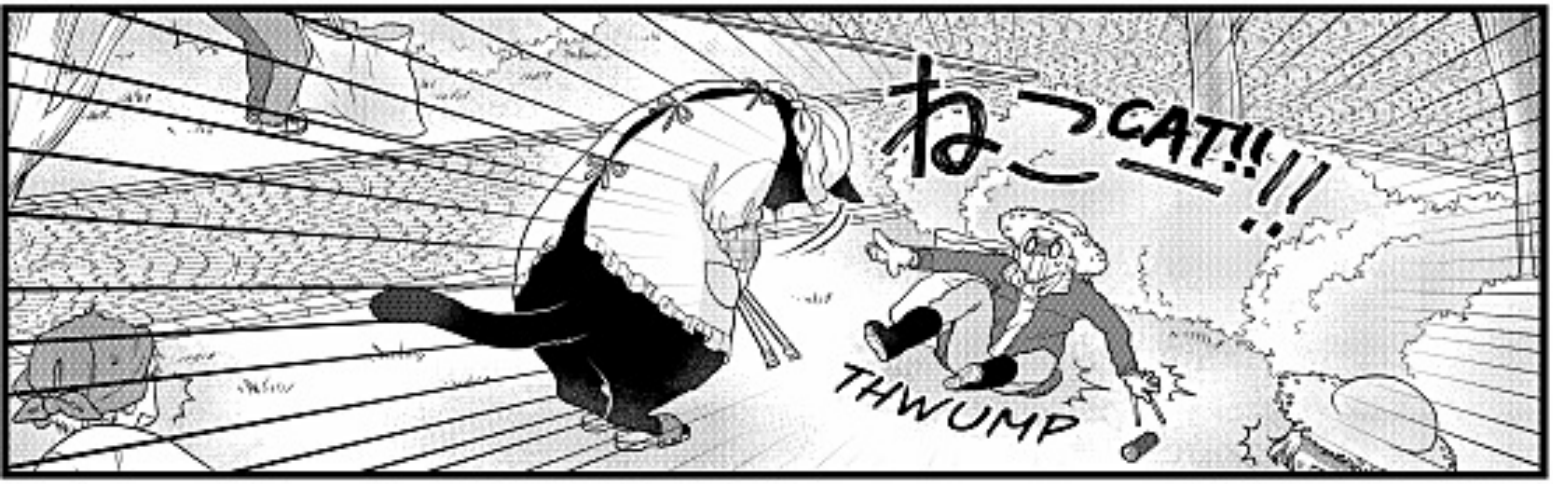
The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

FUR AND SCENTS

SQUEE...
DING DONG
GOOD MORNING, YUKICHI-CHAN.
I'VE GOT THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD NEWSLETTER HERE FOR YOU.
TAKER-CHAK
OHO, HAVE YOU GROWN A BIT SINCE THE LAST I SAW YOU?
AH, YES. THEY SEEM TO BE SHORT ON HANDS FOR THE PARK CLEANUP.
I'LL BE THERE AS WELL, SO IF YOU'D LIKE TO HELP OUT, WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU.
FWIP
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PARK CLEANUP!
8:30 A.M. KUROYOSHI PARK

YOU'RE A REAL LIFESAVER! AT THIS POINT, WE'D TAKE EVERY MAN, KID, DOG, OR EVEN CAT YA GOT....
WHEW!
OH! YOU THE NEW GUY HERE TO HELP WITH THE CLEANUP?

.....


ねこ CAT!!!
THWUMP

YUKI-CHI-CHAN! YOU CAME!!
OH, YOU BROUGHT YOUR OWN!
DO WE EVEN HAVE GLOVES THAT'LL FIT?
THEN IT'S ALL GOOD!!
UM!
FREAKING OUT
W-WOW, CATS THESE DAYS ARE GETTIN' REAL BIG, HUH?!
HA HA HA HA HA!

BWA HA!
HANDY? WITH WHAT HANDS?!
HE CAN DO THE WORK OF A HUNDRED MEN!
THIS IS YUKICHI-CHAN. HE'S INCREDIBLY HANDY, SO I'M SURE HE'LL BE A BIG HELP!
A FRIEND OF YOURS, MEI...?
TMP
BWSH
ZWSH
ZWSH
ZWSH
ZWSH
ZWSH
ZWSH
?!
LOOKS LIKE YOU GOT WHAT YOU ASKED FOR! A CAT!
YOU SEE THAT?!
CLEANUP
H-HEY, WHAT'RE YOU PLAN-NING TO DO WITH THOSE PRUNING SHEARS?!
S-S-SORRY FOR DOUBT-ING YOU!!
WH-WHOA THERE, NOW!
SHING
SHING
SHING
WOOOSH
"HANDY" IS A BIT OF AN UNDER-STATE-MENT!!
FWUMP
SNAP
SNAP
SNIP
SNIP
PRUNING

WE DID FINISH CLEANUP MUCH EARLIER THAN WE PLANNED. HMM...
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
WELL... I GOTTA SAY, THIS STILL DOESN'T FEEL REAL, BUT...

CLUNK!
PLAY SOME GOOD OL' FASHIONED CROQUET?
WHY DON'T WE...
YEEEAH!!

AND ON THAT DAY, THE OLD CROQUET TEAM, WHICH HAD BEEN ON HIATUS DUE TO LACK OF MEMBERS, CAME BACK ONTO THE SCENE.
HEH.
CLAP
YOU'RE A QUICK STUDY, KID!!

A NEW CLEANING THING?
WHAT'S THAT YOU GOT THERE?
HEH.
THEY GAVE HIM ONE OF THEIR OLD MALLETS.

CAN 24 END

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

PAT
PAT

WHEW!
TURN
SQUISH
NGYAH!
?!

FWOOSH
QUIVER
QUIVER

???

RATTLE

AH!! DIA-CHAN ?!

?!

GLANCE

GLANCE

?!

AH!

H-HOLD ONTO HIM FOR ME, WOULD YOU?!

LITTLE RASCAL SCRATCHED A HOLE IN THE SCREEN DOOR AND MANAGED TO SLIP OUT!!

YUKICHI-CHAN?! THAT KITTEN YOU HAVE THERE ...

IT IS HIM!

?

OH, YOU DON'T RECOG-NIZE HIM?

YOU REALLY GAVE ME A SCARE!

DIA-CHAN, YOU LITTLE TROUBLE-MAKER! YOU WANTED TO SEE YUKICHI-CHAN THAT BADLY?

OH, THANK YOU SO MUCH, YUKICHI-CHAN!

?! ?! ?!

Before...

SPARKLE

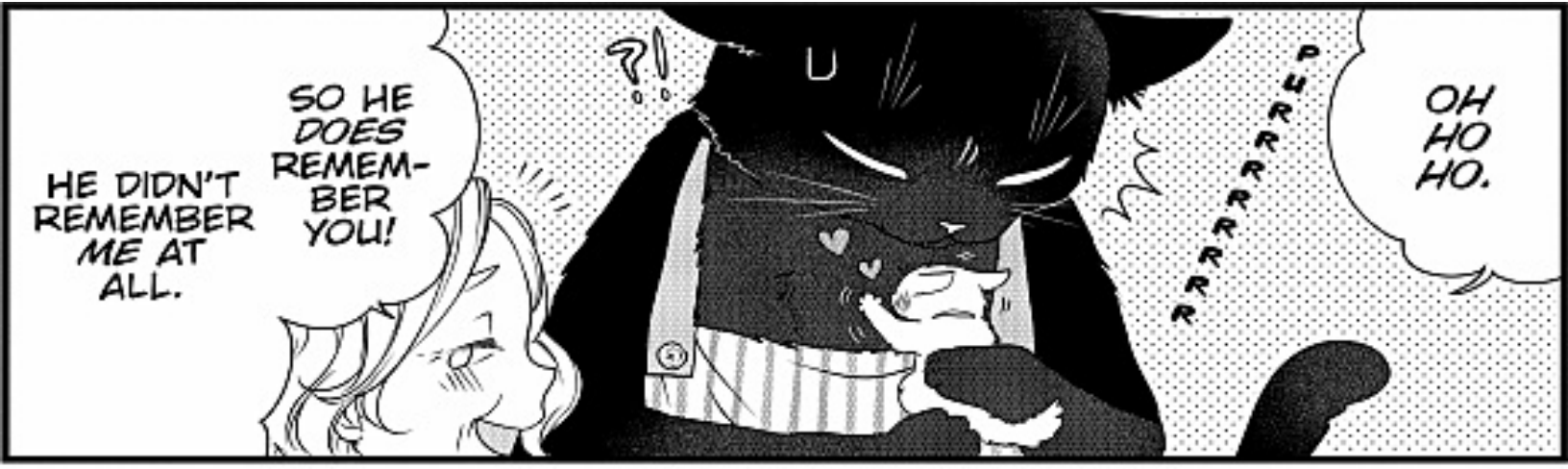
After!

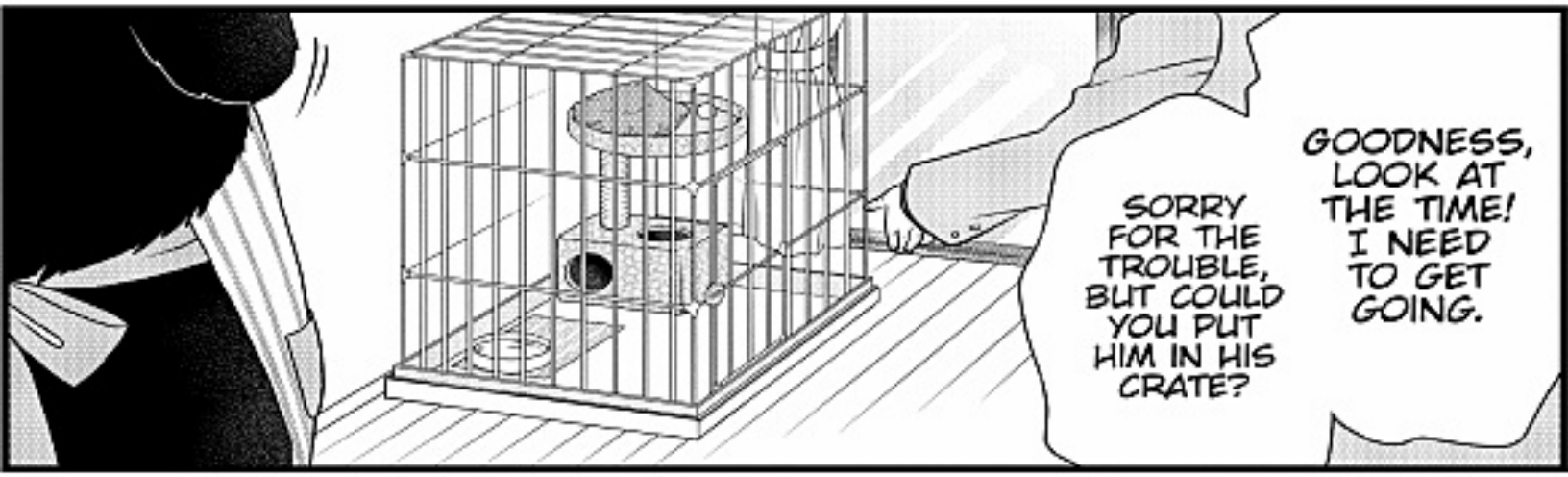
SPARKLE

THE TANAKAS' PRINCE: SHINY DIAMOND

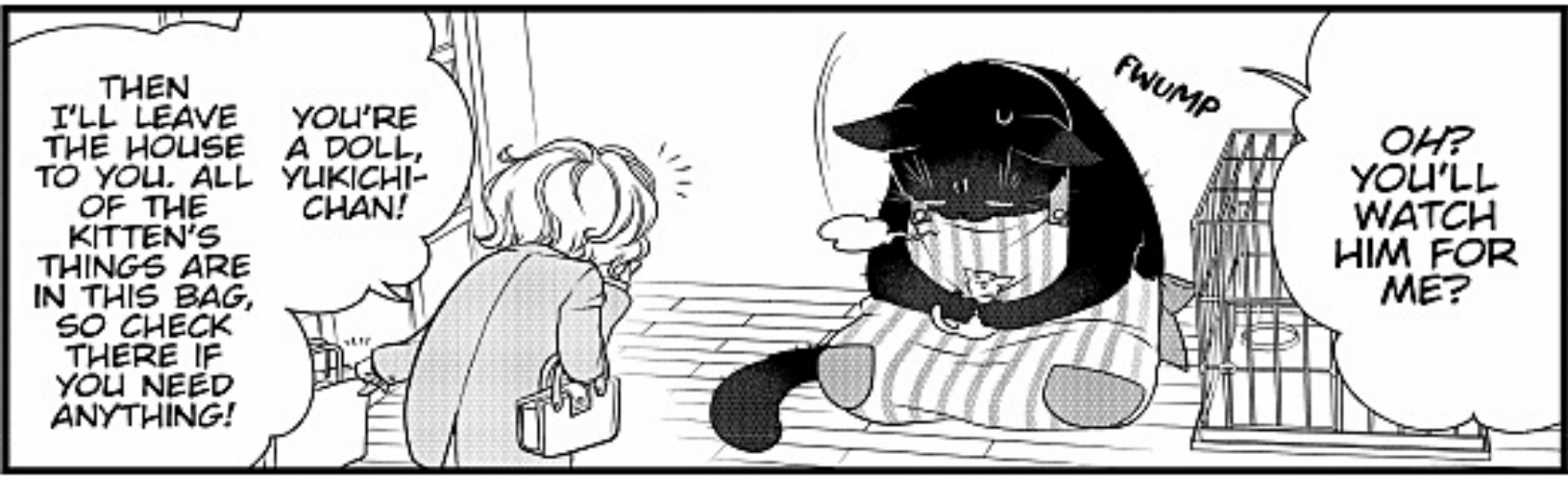
HIS FAMILY IS ON A TRIP RIGHT NOW, SO I'M LOOKING AFTER HIM.

THIS IS THE LITTLE KITTEN YOU AND THAT GIRL PICKED UP OFF THE STREET.


HE DIDN'T REMEMBER ME AT ALL.
SO HE DOES REMEMBER YOU!
?!
PURRRRRRRRR
OH HO HO.


SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE, BUT COULD YOU PUT HIM IN HIS CRATE?
GOODNESS, LOOK AT THE TIME! I NEED TO GET GOING.

.....
.....
CLENCH...


THEN I'LL LEAVE THE HOUSE TO YOU. ALL OF THE KITTEN'S THINGS ARE IN THIS BAG, SO CHECK THERE IF YOU NEED ANYTHING!
YOU'RE A DOLL, YUKICHI-CHAN!
FWUMP
OH? YOU'LL WATCH HIM FOR ME?

SIGH!
GETS RESTLESS WHEN THERE'S NOTHING TO DO.
PURR PURR PURR
SNUGGLE SNUGGLE
PURRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR
BA-THUMP!
RUB RUB RUB RUB RUB

!
RUSTLE
SWISH
PERK
FWISH
TWITCH
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
CHOMP
CHOMP
MEOW!!

SWOOSH!
!!
TOSS
!!
PHEW!
TUP
EEEEEEEEEEEP!!
BWSH

HUFF!
HMPH!
RECIPE
GROOOWL
MEW!
MEW!
MEW!
MEW!
HE MADE YUKICHI DO IT AGAIN, OVER AND OVER.
STIR
STIR
MEW!
SILENCE...
?!
TURN
GLANCE
GLANCE

I'M BACK, YUKICHI-CHAN! DIA-CHAN!
RATTLE...
I HOPE EVERYTHING WENT OKAY.
I BOUGHT NORI AND BONITO FLAKES!
YUKICHI-CHAN?
QUIET...
OH, WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT...
YOU CERTAINLY ARE A MASTERFUL CAT, AREN'T YOU?
ZZZ
ZZZ

I'M STARVING, YUKICHI!!! ~!
AHHH, SO FLUFFY!
RUB RUB RUB RUB
BAM
I'M HOOOOME!

AH.
HERE COMES THE TONGUE CLICKING...
STARE
.....

HUH ?!
HEH.
PURR PURR PURR

WHAT HAPPENED?! DID YOU BUMP YOUR HEAD OR SOMETHING, YUKICHI?!
YOUR PAW PAD FEELS NICE, THOUGH!!
.....
PET PET
?!
?!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!

HIS PET PARENTS.
LET'S MAKE AN INSTA ACCOUNT FOR HIM!
BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, HE'LL BE WALKING AROUND ON TWO LEGS, HA HA!
CHATTER CHATTER
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
HE'S BEEN TRYING SO HARD TO STAND UP RECENTLY, DON'T YOU THINK?!
WHAT A CUTIE!
KA-SHK
KA-SHK
KA-SHK

CAN 25 END

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

#CATLIFE

YURI-CHAN! YOU'RE JUST TAKING LUNCH NOW?

MIND IF I JOIN YOU?

OH, OSHIRO-SAN.

I WAS WAITING FOR SAKU-SENPAI SO WE COULD EAT TOGETHER, BUT HER MEETING'S RUNNING LONG.

YOU TOO? FUKU-ZAWA SURE IS POP-ULAR.

?

A FRIEND OF MINE ASKED ME TO FIND OUT IF SHE'S SINGLE.

SIGH!

HE WANTS ME TO INVITE HER TO A MIXER.

EVERY NOW AND THEN SOMEONE ASKS.

WHO?! SOMEONE FROM ANOTHER DEPART-MENT?!

YOU GUYS ARE HAVING A MIXER?! WHERE'S *MY* INVITE?!

BUT YOU GET IT, RIGHT?! SHE'S SUPER PRETTY AND OUTGOING. SHE'S GOOD AT HER JOB. AND HER COOKING SKILLS ARE INSANE!

PLUS, SHE CAN HOLD HER LIQUOR! SHE COMES INTO WORK LOOKING SHARP AFTER A NIGHT OF DRINKING...

BUSINESS MODE

I KNOW, I KNOW! SHE'S A TOTAL CATCH!

BUT LET ME TELL YOU, SHE WAS *WAAAAY* DIFFERENT WHEN SHE FIRST STARTED WORKING HERE.

TELL ME EVERY-THING.

WHOA, REALLY?! CAN'T IMAGINE HER LIKE THAT.

BOW BOW

KINDA LIKE THIS.

"I'M SORRRRRY!"

SHE ALWAYS LOOKED KINDA SICK, AND SHE WAS SO NERVOUS ALL THE TIME, EVEN WHEN SHE HADN'T MESSED UP OR ANYTHING...

SHE STARTED HERE ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO.

HONESTLY, I THOUGHT IT LOOKED KINDA JANKY.

THAT'S ODD.

ONE DAY, I SAW HER BRING IN A HOMEMADE RICE BALL FOR LUNCH.

I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED, SO I KEPT AN EYE ON HER.

BUT SHE LOOKED SO HAPPY WHILE SHE WAS EATING IT.

YOU REALLY HAVE NO FAITH IN HER, HUH?

MY THEORY IS THAT THERE WAS SOME FREAKY DRUG IN THAT RICE BALL!!

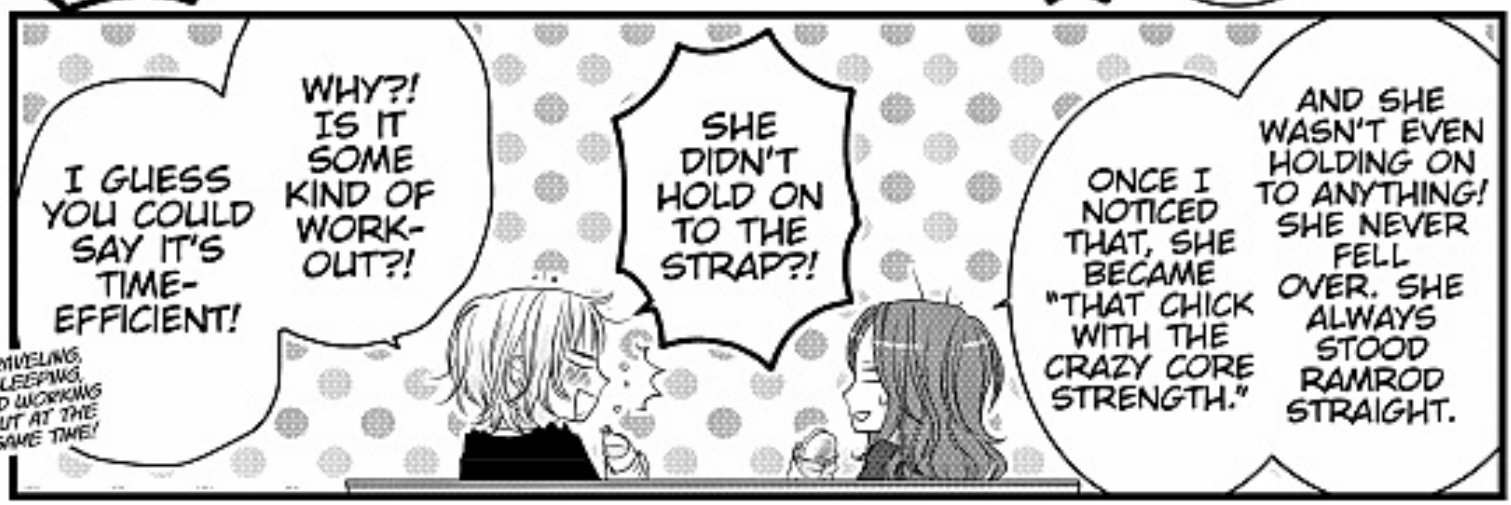
MAYBE SHE JUST GOT MORE CONFIDENT OR SOMETHING, BUT HER POSTURE IMPROVED AND SO DID HER COMPLEXION.

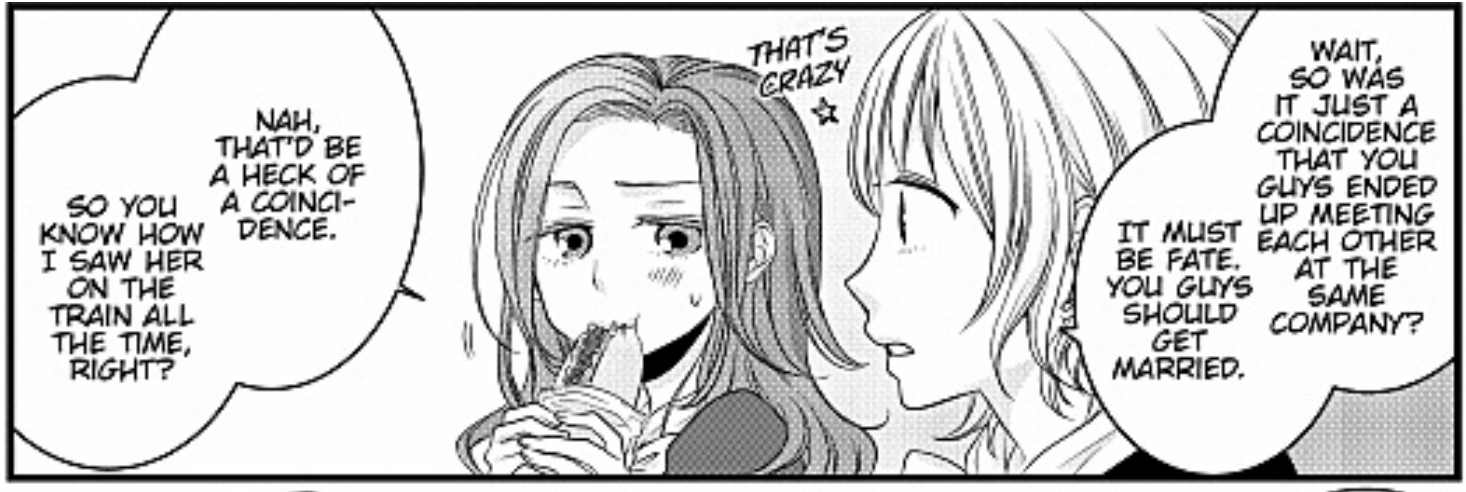
IT WAS AROUND THAT TIME THAT SHE STARTED GETTING REALLY GOOD AT HER JOB.

BUT I ACTUALLY MET SAKU-SENPAI WHILE I WAS JOB HUNTING.
I MEAN, SOME OF IT SURPRISED ME.
NAH.
OH! SORRY, DID I RUIN YOUR IMAGE OF HER?

SHE ALWAYS LOOKED REALLY PUT TOGETHER, AND I THOUGHT SHE WAS SO PRETTY.
YEAH, I'D SEE HER ON THE TRAIN A LOT.
STARE
REALLY?!

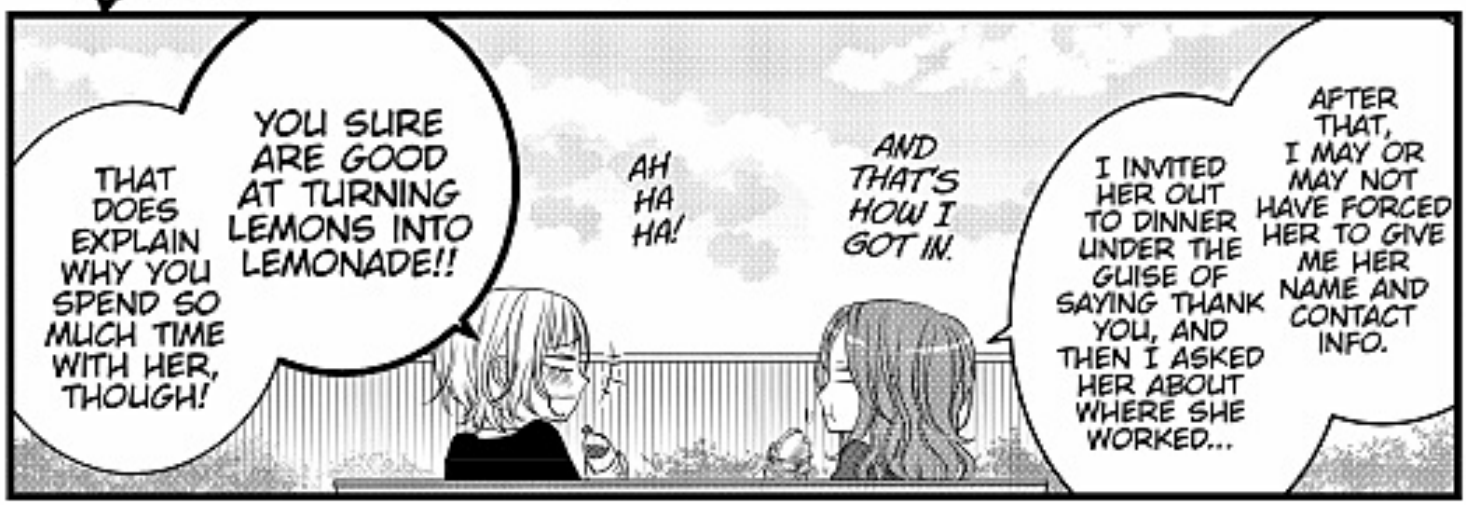
SHE WAS TOTALLY KNOCKED OUT THE ENTIRE TIME!! EVERY MORNING! WHILE STANDING!
?!
ZZZ
SNORE
BUT!!
THERE WAS A PERIOD OF TIME WHERE I SECRETLY LOOKED UP TO HER.
I TOLD MYSELF, "THAT'S THE KIND OF WOMAN I WANT TO BE WHEN I FIND A JOB."


I GUESS YOU COULD SAY IT'S TIME-EFFICIENT!
TRAVELING, SLEEPING, AND WORKING OUT AT THE SAME TIME!
WHY?! IS IT SOME KIND OF WORK-OUT?!
SHE DIDN'T HOLD ON TO THE STRAP?!
ONCE I NOTICED THAT, SHE BECAME "THAT CHICK WITH THE CRAZY CORE STRENGTH."
AND SHE WASN'T EVEN HOLDING ON TO ANYTHING! SHE NEVER FELL OVER. SHE ALWAYS STOOD RAMROD STRAIGHT.


SO YOU KNOW HOW I SAW HER ON THE TRAIN ALL THE TIME, RIGHT?
NAH, THAT'D BE A HECK OF A COINCIDENCE.
THAT'S CRAZY ☆
IT MUST BE FATE. YOU GUYS SHOULD GET MARRIED.
WAIT, SO WAS IT JUST A COINCIDENCE THAT YOU GUYS ENDED UP MEETING EACH OTHER AT THE SAME COMPANY?

YEAH. SHE JUST CASUALLY...
RE-STRAINED HIM?! WHAT?! HOW?!
YOU'LL BE GETTING OFF AT THE NEXT STOP WITH ME.
PLEASE DON'T TOUCH HER.
SHE EVEN RESTRAINED THE GUY.
I HAD A RUN-IN WITH THIS CREEP ON THE TRAIN HARASSING ME. SAKU-SENPAI NOTICED AND CAME TO MY RESCUE.

WAS SHE IN THE MILITARY OR SOMETHING BEFORE SHE CAME HERE?!
F-HEY!
COULD YOU COME WITH US AS WELL?
OW OW OW! LET GO OF ME!
TWISTED HIS ARM BEHIND HIS BACK.


THAT DOES EXPLAIN WHY YOU SPEND SO MUCH TIME WITH HER, THOUGH!
YOU SURE ARE GOOD AT TURNING LEMONS INTO LEMONADE!!
AH HA HA!
AND THAT'S HOW I GOT IN.
I INVITED HER OUT TO DINNER UNDER THE GUISE OF SAYING THANK YOU, AND THEN I ASKED HER ABOUT WHERE SHE WORKED...
AFTER THAT, I MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE FORCED HER TO GIVE ME HER NAME AND CONTACT INFO.

SHE DOES SEEM ALMOST INHUMAN, DOESN'T SHE?

THERE'S NO BEATING HER, HUH? IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.

SO SHE'S OUTGOING, GOOD AT HER JOB, AND SHE'S SUPER STRONG ON TOP OF ALL THAT?

WOW! I HAD NO IDEA.

I WONDER WHAT ELSE WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT HER.

YOU MEAN LIKE ANOTHER HIDDEN SIDE OF HER?.

NO WAY, NO ONE'S THAT PERFECT! HA HA!

GRRR

RRRR

ゴゴゴゴ

ゴゴゴゴ

ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL

CHIPS

SHWP

SLOBBY

ACK! I'VE BEEN FOUND OUT!!

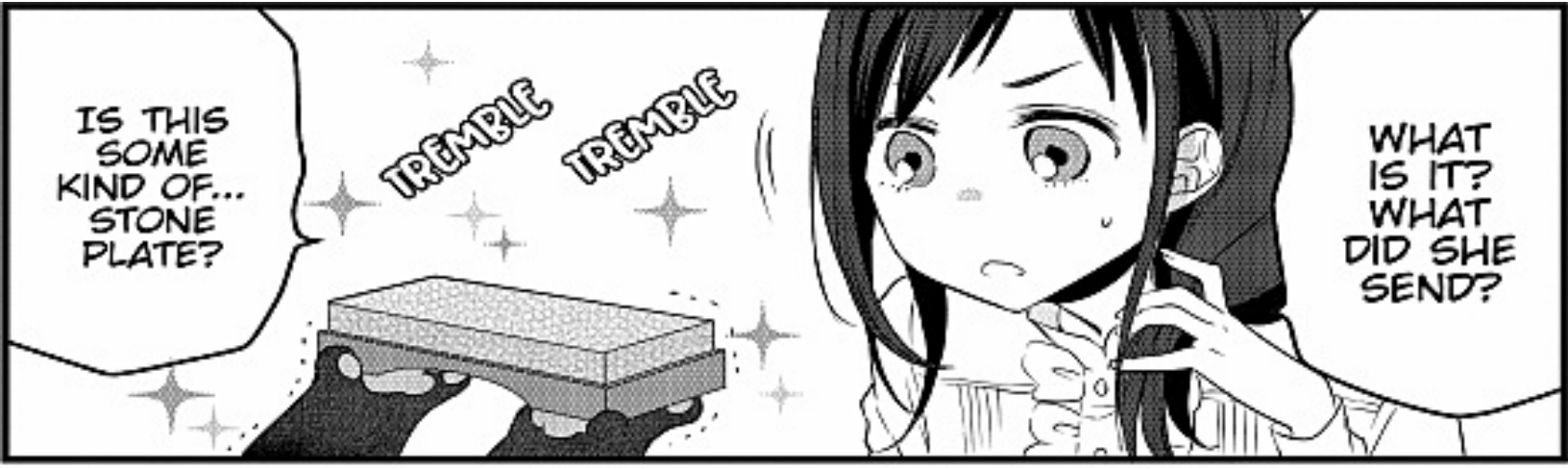
I-I'M SORRY! I'LL CLEAN IT UP LATER!

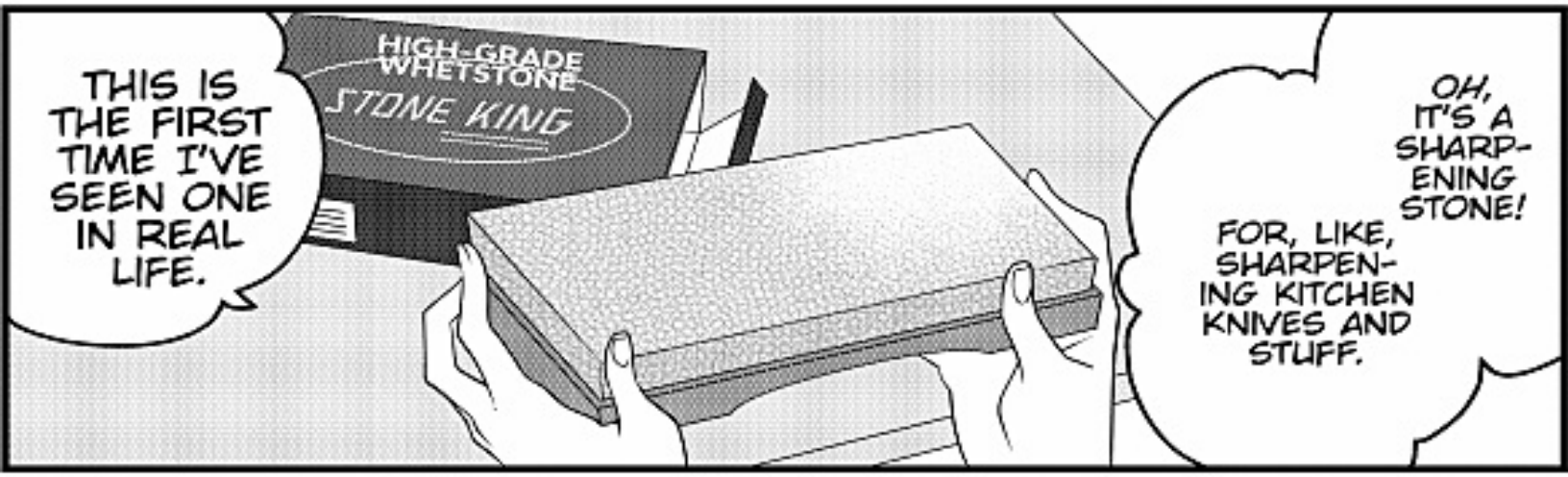
I PROMISE!! SO PLEEE-EASE GIVE ME MY CHIPS BACK!

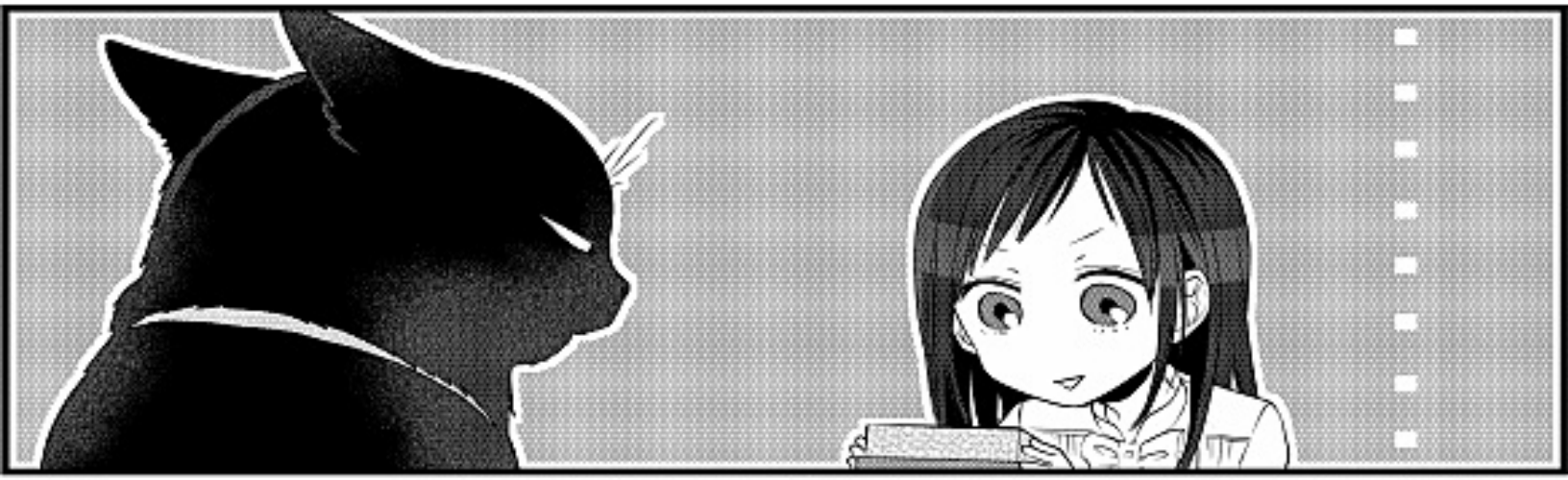
CAN 26 END

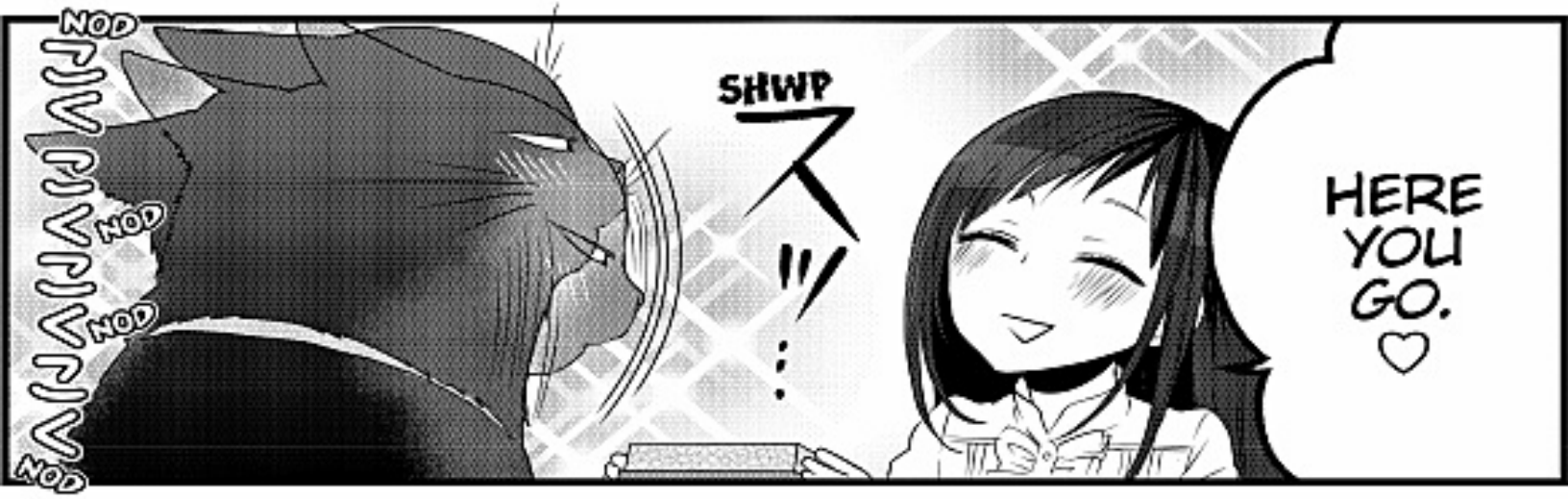
The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

† Saku's mom's handwritten logo.


IS THIS SOME KIND OF... STONE PLATE?
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
WHAT IS IT? WHAT DID SHE SEND?


THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN ONE IN REAL LIFE.
HIGH-GRADE WHETSTONE
STONE KING
OH, IT'S A SHARPENING STONE!
FOR, LIKE, SHARPENING KITCHEN KNIVES AND STUFF.




NOD
NOD
NOD
NOD
SHWP
HERE YOU GO. ♡

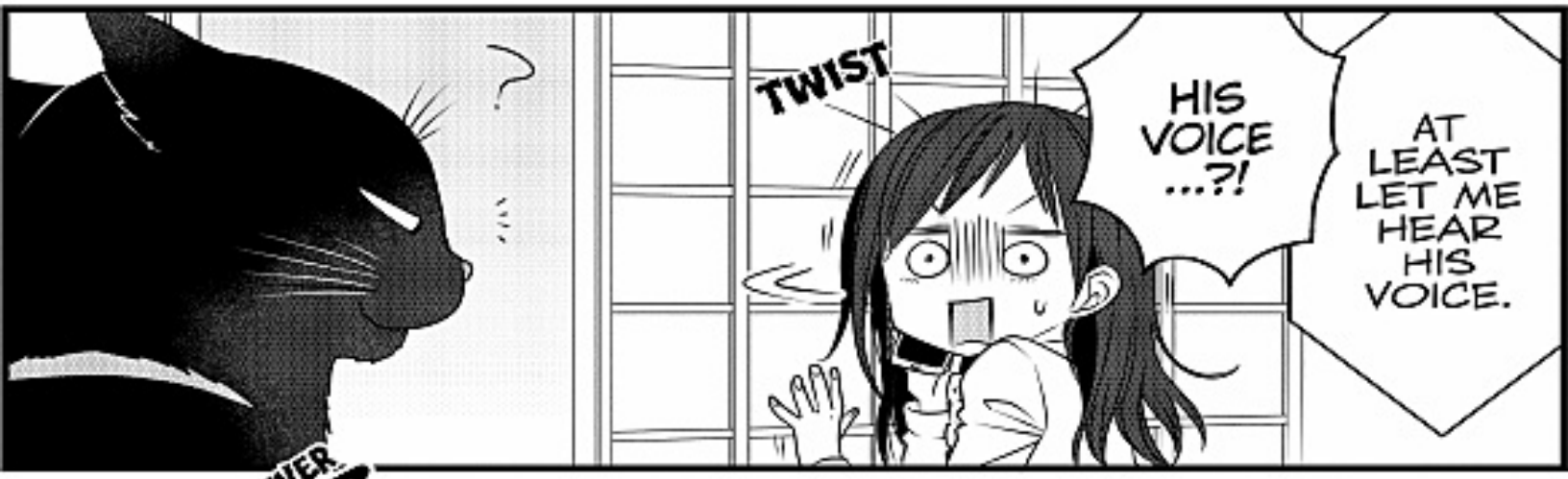
IT'S M-M-MOM!
JUMP
BZZ
BZZ
WHOA!

THANKS FOR THE SHARPENING STONE.
I'M AT HOME. I JUST OPENED YOUR PACKAGE!
SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING. WERE YOU ON A DATE?
H-HELLO?

ACTUALLY, HE'S HAPPY AS A CLAM.
RUB
RUB
I HOPE YUKICHI-CHAN ISN'T TOO SAD THAT THERE'S NOTHING FOR HIM IN THE BOX.

SAYS WHO?! NOT ME!!
WHY ARE YOU SAYING THAT LIKE HE ISN'T A NORMAL CAT? HA HA!
SNUG...
NORMAL CATS LOVE BOXES, RIGHT?!
OH!! NO, I MEANT, UHH... THE BOX!! THAT IT CAME IN!!
HUH?
HE IS? ABOUT THE STONE?

C-CAUSE HE'S, UM, TIRED! AND I NEED TO GET UP EARLY TOMORROW!
SO GOOD NIGHT!
WHY NOT?!
THWAP
ABSOLUTELY NOT!!
I WANT TO SEE YUKICHI-CHAN IN A BOX.

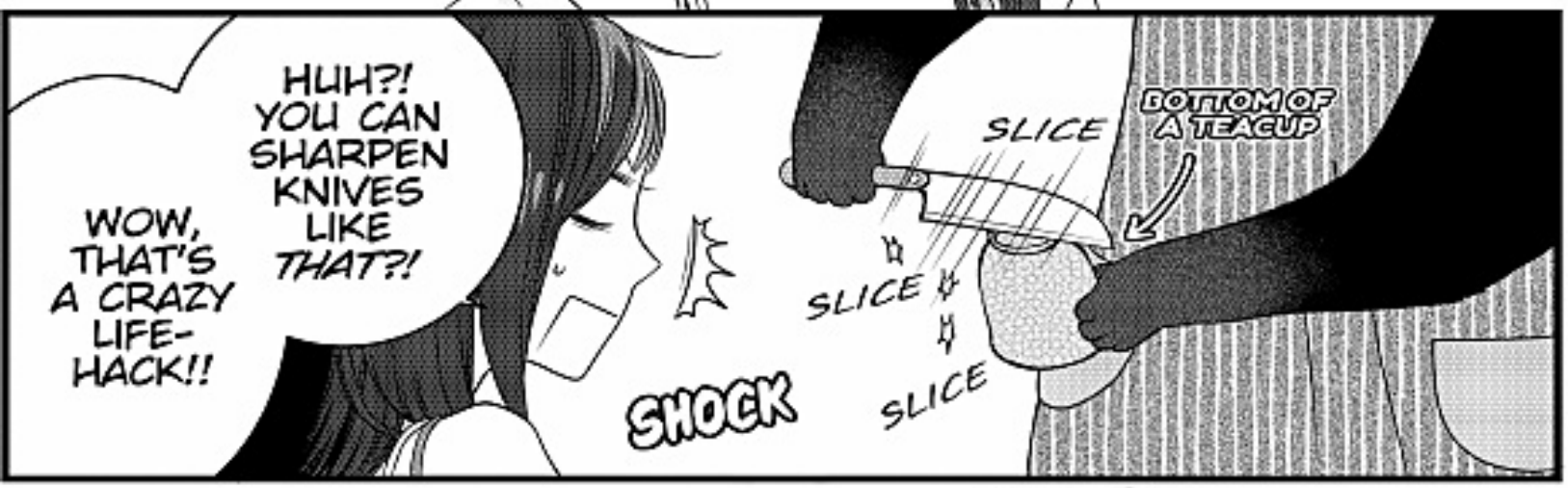

TWIST
HIS VOICE ...?!
AT LEAST LET ME HEAR HIS VOICE.

SHIVER
ALTHOUGH SOMETIMES, HE'LL DO THAT WEIRD LAUGHING THING...
BUT EVEN I HAVEN'T HEARD HIS VOICE BEFORE.

SHE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE SOUND OF HIS PURRING.
PURRRRRRRRRR
I GUESS THAT MAKES SENSE. HE IS A HOUSE CAT, AFTER ALL.
I'LL PUT HIM ON BUT...HE'S A PRETTY QUIET CAT, THOUGH.

SPLISH
SLOSH
I'M GONNA TAKE A BATH.
OH, HEY.
ALREADY BREAKING IT IN?

HOW HAVE YOU BEEN KEEPING THE KNIVES SHARP THIS WHOLE TIME?
I SHARPEN MY KNIVES.
AFTER CLOSING UP SHOP..
I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WAS SOMETHING ONLY PROS USED.
SO YOU NEED A SHARPENING STONE FOR HOME COOKING, TOO.


WOW, THAT'S A CRAZY LIFE-HACK!!
HUH?! YOU CAN SHARPEN KNIVES LIKE THAT?!
SHOCK
SLICE
SLICE
SLICE
BOTTOM OF A TEACUP

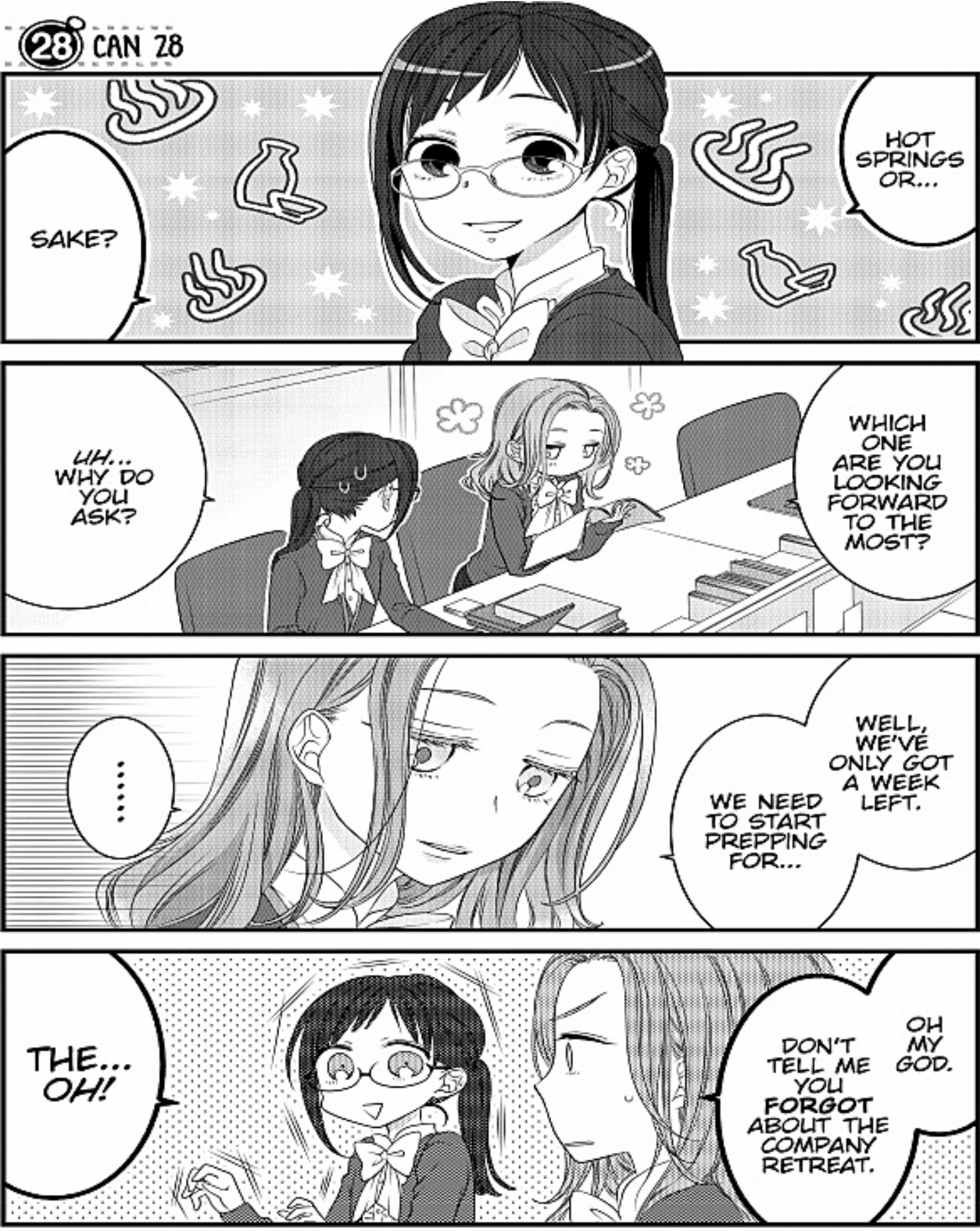
YOU'RE A CAT THAT SHARPENS KNIVES! YOU'RE THE WEIRD ONE HERE!!
DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THIS IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE!

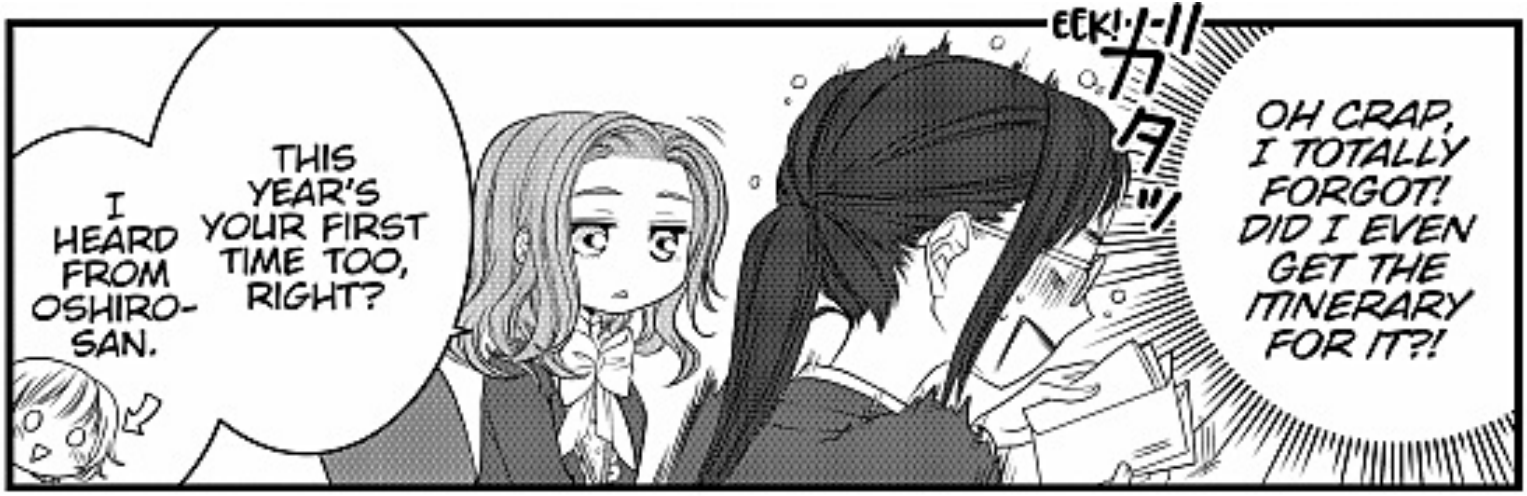
*Yamanba is a monster in Japanese folklore. Travelers sometimes hear her sharpening her knives in the distance.

SHE'S COME TO APPRECIATE THE MARVEL THAT IS THE SHARPENING STONE.
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
BLISS!
THANKS, MOM!

CAN 27 END

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today


HOT SPRINGS OR...
SAKE?
WHICH ONE ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO THE MOST?
UH... WHY DO YOU ASK?
WELL, WE'VE ONLY GOT A WEEK LEFT.
WE NEED TO START PREPPING FOR...
.....
OH MY GOD.
DON'T TELL ME YOU FORGOT ABOUT THE COMPANY RETREAT.
THE... OH!


I HEARD FROM OSHIRO-SAN.
THIS YEAR'S YOUR FIRST TIME TOO, RIGHT?
EEK!
OH CRAP, I TOTALLY FORGOT! DID I EVEN GET THE ITINERARY FOR IT?!

ARE YOU GOING THIS YEAR, THEN?
AH.
YUKICHI WHEN HE WAS JUST A WEE THING.
BUT LAST TIME MY CAT WAS STILL JUST A BABY KITTEN, SO I DIDN'T GO.
AH, YEAH. THEY HAVE ONE EVERY TWO YEARS...

IT'S TRUE. YOUR IRON LIVER PROTECTS THE REST OF US FROM ALCOHOL POISONING.
CLAMOR
WE NEED YOU!!
WE'LL NEVER SURVIVE THE BANQUET WITHOUT YOU!!
SAY YOU'LL GO!!
WELL, I WASN'T GOING TO, BUT WHEN THE OTHERS HEARD, THEY ALL STRONG ARMED ME.
I COULDN'T SAY NO.

WHAT?
MM.
AT THIS POINT, I COULD BE GONE FOR A MONTH AND HE'D STILL BE OKAY.
NOTHING!
NO LONGER A WEE THING.
YOU MIGHT HAVE TO LEAVE OUT TWO LITTER-BOXES THOUGH!!
I MEAN, WHAT'S ONE NIGHT, RIGHT? YOUR CAT'S NOT A KITTEN ANYMORE, HE'LL BE OKAY!

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I CAN'T REMEMBER YOU EVER TRAVELING ANYWHERE.
OOOH!
SAKE JELLY!
IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I TOOK A TRIP, THOUGH.

Y'KNOW, I'VE ACTUALLY NEVER BEEN OUTSIDE OF JAPAN.
YOU DO LIKE TO TRAVEL ABROAD.
OH, COOL!
THEY'RE FAMOUS FOR THIS, APPARENTLY.
GUIDE
IT'S ALSO BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE TAKEN A TRIP WITHIN THE COUNTRY.
I'M PUMPED.

I JUST HAVEN'T, FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER. NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
OH NO, IT'S NOT THAT.
SLIP...
GUIDE
ARE YOU NOT A BIG FAN OF TRAVELING?

TH-THIS TRIP IS GONNA BE GREAT, OKAY, SAKU-SENPAI?!
?!
THE LAST TRIP I EVER WENT ON WAS A FIELD TRIP BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL.

I'LL BE GONE FOR A WHOLE TWO DAYS.
A GUIDEBOOK SHE BOUGHT ON THE WAY HOME.
ITINERARY
SO.
BASICALLY...
SHAKE
SHAKE
OH, YOU'LL JUST BUY IT YOURSELF IF YOU NEED SOMETHING?
DO YOU NEED ME TO BUY ANYTHING BEFORE I GO?
ARE YOU GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT BY YOUR-SELF?
YOU'LL JUST REACH OUT TO THE NEIGHBOR INSTEAD?
YEAH, THAT MAKES SENSE!
HM?
I'LL RUSH BACK HOME.
OKAY, WELL, IF ANYTHING COMES UP FEEL FREE TO CALL ME.
OH, RIGHT!! YOU HAVE AN ATM CARD!!
SHWF
TH-THEN, JUST IN CASE, I'LL LEAVE SOME EXTRA CASH FOR...

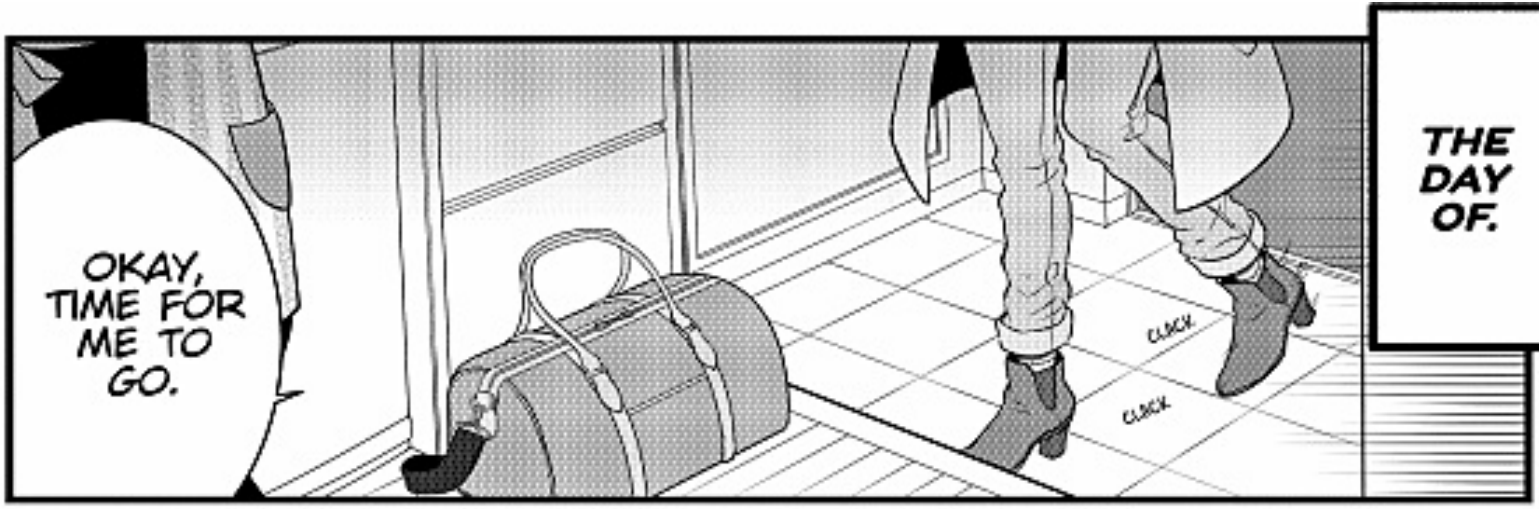
HMM. IS THERE ANYTHING I NEED TO BUY FOR THE TRIP?
IT'S JUST ONE NIGHT, SO I PROBABLY ONLY NEED AN OVERNIGHT BAG FOR THIS.
KA-CHAK
HUH? WHERE'D I PUT IT, AGAIN...?
YUKICHI!!!!!

OH, YOU PUT IT IN A DUST COVER FOR ME.
THANKS!!
RUSTLE
OKAY, THAT'S SET. NOW, CLOTHES. WHAT SHOULD I BRING?
HEY, YUKICHI!

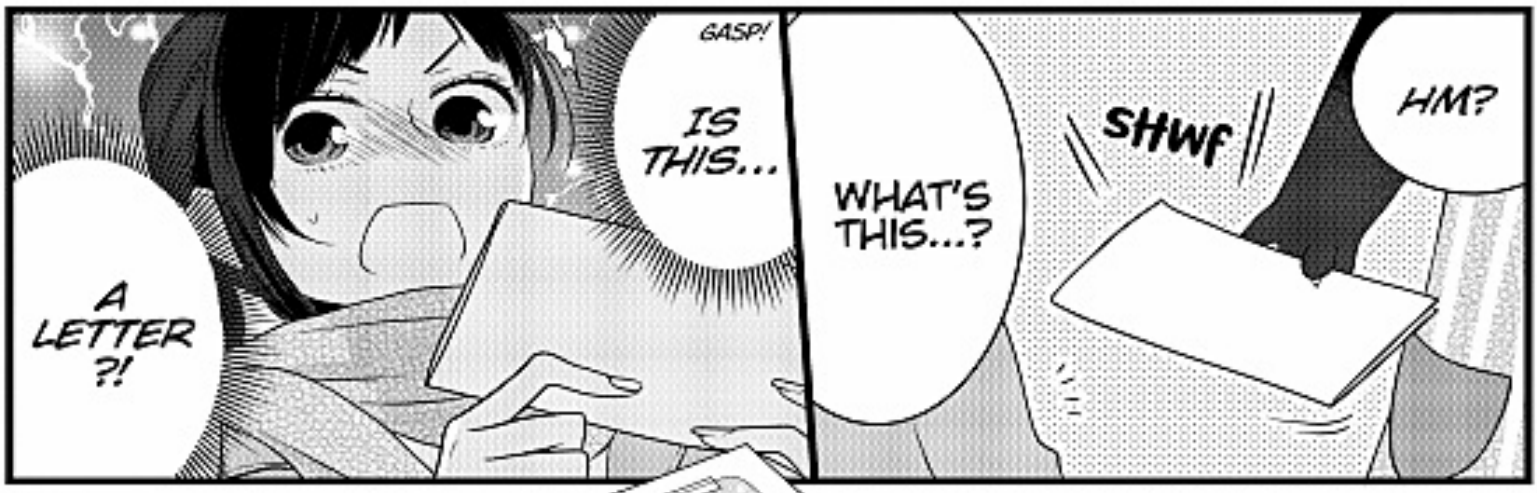
HMMMM. MAYBE JUST THESE? I WONDER HOW COLD IT'LL BE...
OH! HUNH. DID I ALWAYS HAVE THAT CARDIGAN?
YOU BOUGHT IT FOR ME? FOR WHEN I GO OUT? THANKS, YUKICHI!

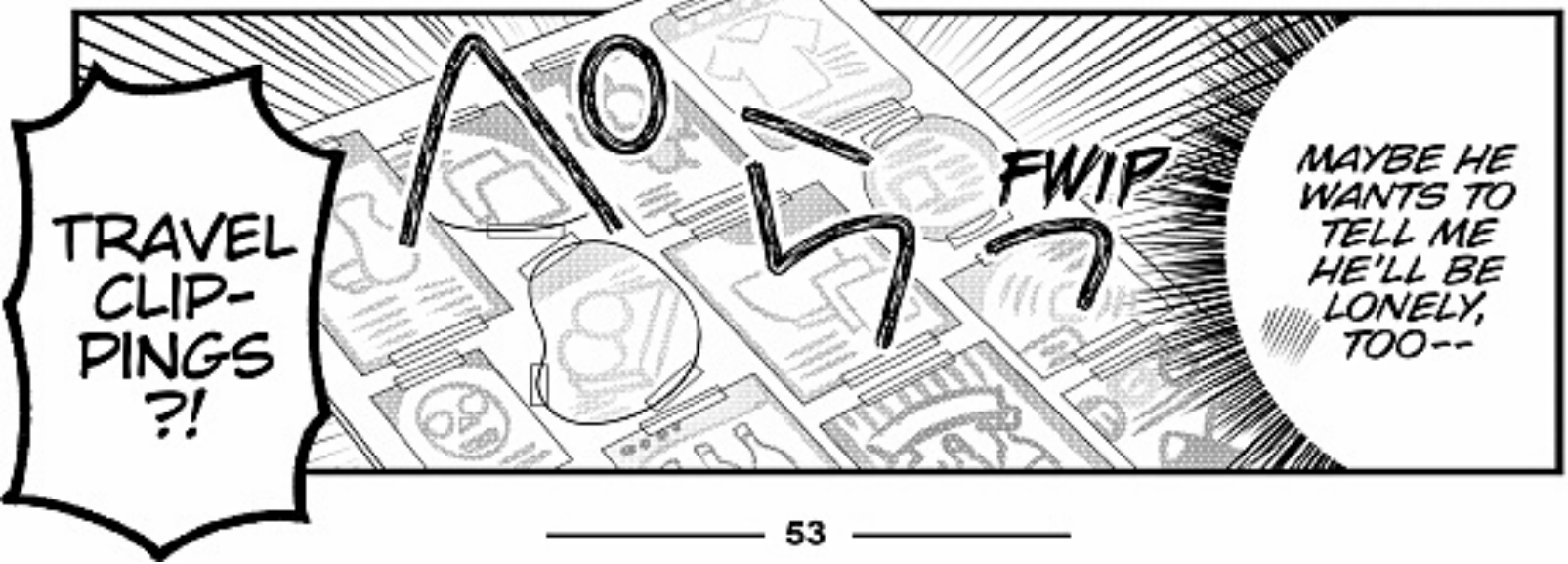
AM...AM I GONNA BE OKAY WITHOUT YUKICHI FOR TWO DAYS?

YUKICHI IS TOTALLY UNFAZED BY THE IDEA OF ME BEING GONE.
ME, ON THE OTHER HAND...I CAN'T EVEN PACK WITHOUT HIM.
MAYBE I'M IN JUST A TEENY TINY BIT OF TROUBLE.
AND IF I SAID I'D BE LONELY WITHOUT HIM...
SNIFF
EVEN IF IT'S ONLY FOR ONE NIGHT...
WOULD HE...
ZZZ
PERK..
WOULD HE BE FED UP WITH ME?
SNUGGLE


THE DAY OF.
OKAY, TIME FOR ME TO GO.
CLACK
CLACK

UGH, I DON'T WANT TO GO. THIS IS BUMMING ME OUT.
I'M GONNA HAVE TO GO WITHOUT YUKICHI'S HOME-COOKED FOOD FOR TWO WHOLE DAYS?
SIGH
SHWP
ALTHOUGH, I'M SURE THAT MAKES LIFE EASIER FOR YUKICHI.


HM?
SHWF
WHAT'S THIS...?
GASP!
IS THIS...
A LETTER ?!


MAYBE HE WANTS TO TELL ME HE'LL BE LONELY, TOO--
FWIP
TRAVEL CLIP-PINGS ?!

THAT'S WHY YOU WERE SO EXCITED ABOUT THE TRIP?!
OH, YOU EVEN INCLUDED A MAP OF THE AREA! HOW THOROUGH!
THUMBS UP
SHAKE
わな
SHAKE
わな
AND IT'S JUST A LIST OF SOUVENIRS TO BUY?!
I WAS WONDERING WHY YOU LOOKED SO SERIOUS ABOUT A PIECE OF PAPER!

BYE!!
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH!
CHAK
WELL, WE'RE IN A TOUR GROUP, SO I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN STOP TO BUY ALL THIS STUFF!!
SO DON'T GET YOUR HOPES UP!!

……
KER-THUNK!
ガチャン!

THOROUGHLY LOOKING UP EVERYTHING ON THE LIST.
ギリ
GRRR!
SHE'S JUST EXCITED BECAUSE IT'S HER FIRST TRIP SINCE HIGH SCHOOL.
WHAT'S WITH ALL THOSE MAGAZINE CLIPPINGS?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH FUKU-ZAWA?

CAN 28 END

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

『TYPHOON DAY』

#BRINGINYOURDOG
#BRINGINYOURCAT
#BRINGINYOURCORPORATEWARRIOR

STARE
YOU OKAY, FUKUZAWA? IS IT MOTION SICKNESS?
RUMBLE
OH, NO, I'M OKAY!
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WORRY.
MUNCH
MUNCH
I HEARD YOU WERE SO HYPED ABOUT THIS TRIP THAT YOU WERE STARING AT THOSE MAGAZINE CLIPPINGS FOR AGES.
!!
OH, COME ON. WORD'S GOTTEN AROUND.
WHAT? I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING YET...
SMIRK
HOPE YOU'RE NOT ALREADY BURNT OUT, GOING TOO HARD RIGHT OUT OF THE GATE. HEH HEH.
WHAT?!
WAAH!
SERIOUSLY?! YOU ACTUALLY WERE?!
I THOUGHT IT WAS A JOKE!
ALL THE STUFF ON THIS LIST YUKICHI MADE FOR ME...
CRUMPLE

THAT I DIDN'T WANT TO GO?
DID HE REALIZE...
NOW THAT I'VE TAKEN A CLOSER LOOK AT THEM, THEY'RE ALL LOCAL SPECIALTY COSMETICS OR SNACKS OR THINGS LIKE THAT.
IT'S ALL STUFF THAT I'D LIKE.
?
DID YOU FORGET TO PUT OUT ANOTHER LITTERBOX FOR THE CAT?
WAAH!
I...I'M SUCH A BAD OWNER!
FOR YOUR SAFETY, PLEASE REMAIN SEATED UNTIL THE BUS COMES TO A FULL STOP.
CREAK
CREAK
WE'LL BE ARRIVING AT OUR DESTINATION SHORTLY.
RATTLE
RATTLE
I WONDER HOW YUKICHI'S DOING?
I HOPE HE'S TAKING THIS CHANCE TO GET SOME REST.
PHEW!
IT'S FREEZING OUT HERE!

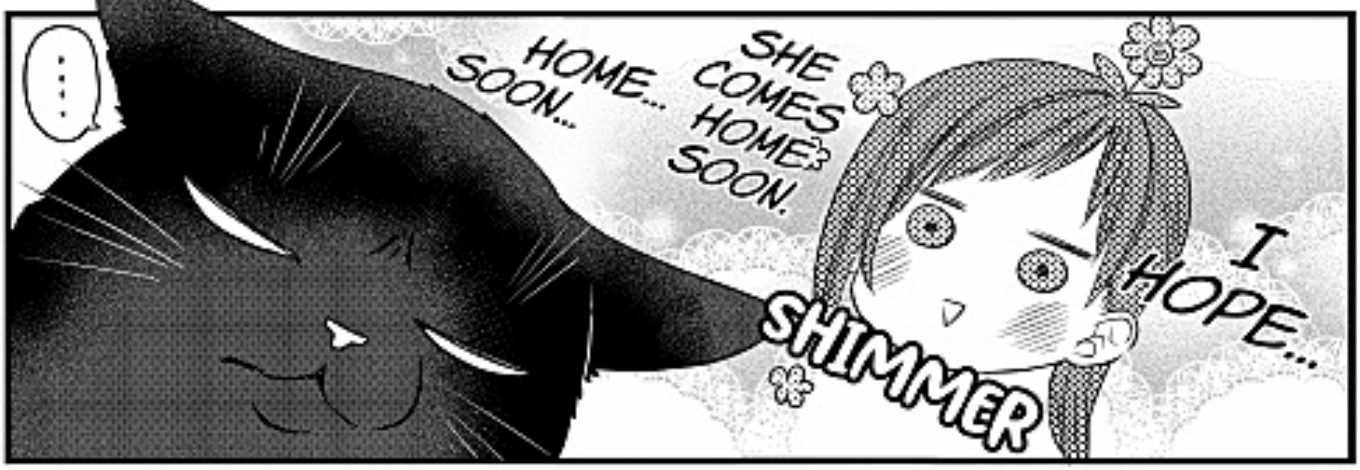
SCRUBSCRUBSCRUBSCRUB
SCRUBSCRUBSCRUBSC
ピカ SHINY
ピカ SHINY
キラ SPARKLE
キラ SPARKLE
WHEW
PAT
PAT
OUT OF STUFF TO DO.
.....

カチャ
KA-CHAK
ふわ
WAFT
SMELLS LIKE SAKU
……
SNUGGLE
……?
BLUSH
ROOOLL
ROOOLL

SIGH.
BEEP
ROLL
ROLL
TODAY, WE'VE GOT THE SCOOP ON SOME TASTY SNACKS TO GO WITH THAT ICE COLD EVENING BEER!
EASY, SHORT RECIPES YOU COULD MAKE TONIGHT, TAUGHT BY THE LEGENDARY HOUSEKEEP, TAMA-SAN!
REGULAR VIEWERS OF IT'S NOONTIME KNOW WHAT COMES NEXT! IT'S TIME FOR QUICK AND DIRTY RECIPES!
BZZT!
IF YOU MAKE A LITTLE EXTRA, YOU CAN EVEN EAT IT FOR LUNCH THE NEXT D--
MAMA! IT'S THAT BEAR RUG AGAIN!
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT!
.....

YUKICHI-SAN?
UH?
YOU DON'T USUALLY COME AROUND AT NIGHT.
JUST GOT OFF HER SHIFT.
BOW
!
IS HE SAD ABOUT SOME-THING?
YOU CAN EVEN TELL THROUGH THE COS-TUME.
?
NOD...
ARE YOU GETTING GROCERIES FOR DINNER?
MAYBE THAT WOMAN IS AWAY RIGHT NOW? WAIT, BUT THAT STILL DOESN'T EXPLAIN WHY THERE'S NO HUMAN FOOD!
WAIT, THERE'S ONLY CAT FOOD IN THAT BASKET. IS THAT DINNER?
CAT

THIS IS FOR YOU!
?
TP TP TP
YUKICHI-SAN, WAIT!
!
FREE SAMPLE OF BEER
Bear Beer
SAMPLE
4%
DON'T WORRY, I GOT PERMISSION FROM THE BOSS.
PLEASE TAKE IT.
I HOPE SHE COMES HOME SOON.
?!
?!
BYE.
BUT I STILL THINK IT'S BEST IF YOU STOPPED EATING PET FOOD.

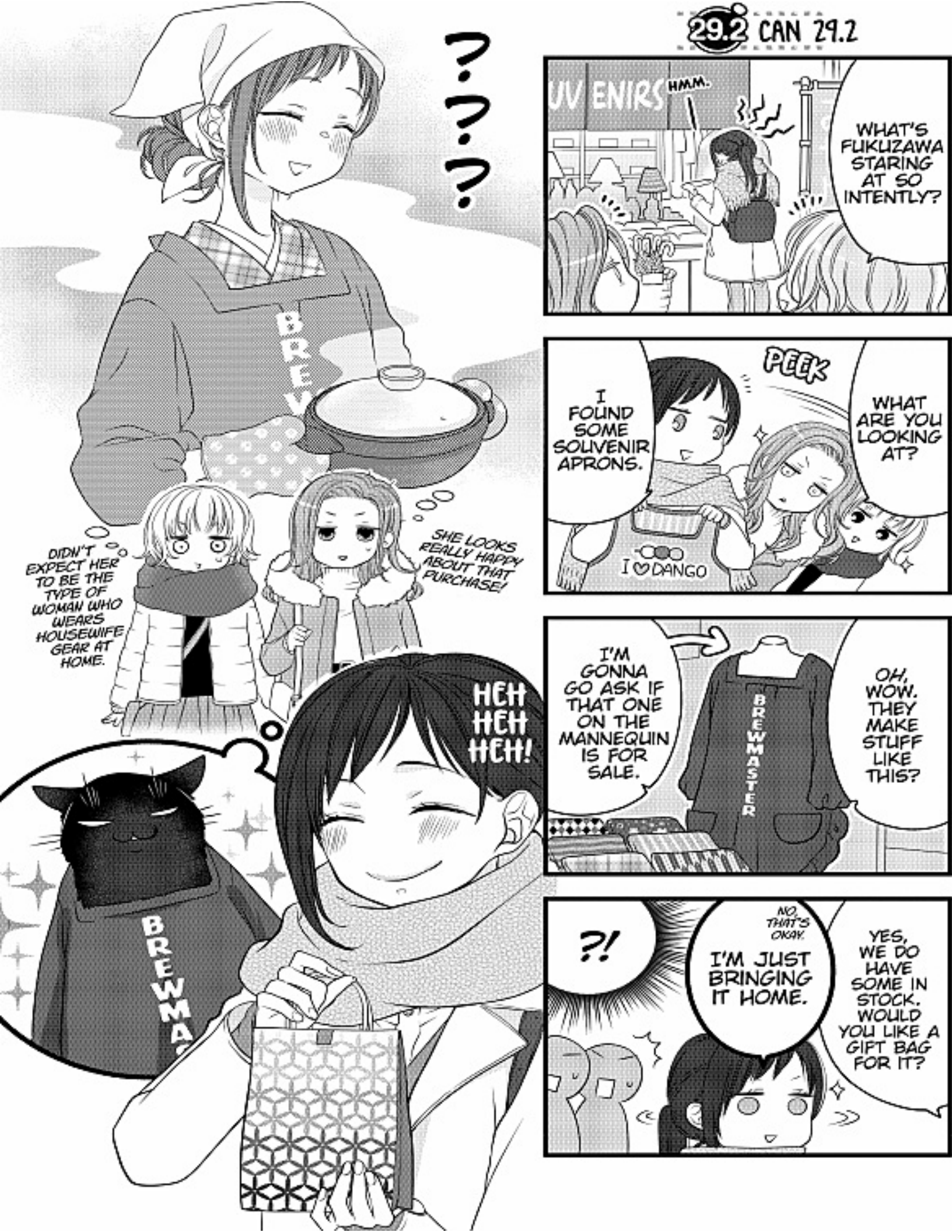


DEALS WITH HIS FRUS-TRATIONS BY CLEAN-ING.

CAN 29 END

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

AHH, HOLD ON! I HAVE SOME TISSUES.
CHEW
CHEW
ACK, I GOT SAUCE ON MY HAND.
RUMMAGE
STICKY
I DON'T REMEMBER GETTING THESE WET WIPES!
WET TISSUES
OH NO! ARE YOU OKAY? I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT BAND-AIDS OR SOMETH--
DANGO
OW OW OW! I GOT A BUSTER.
I DON'T REMEMBER GETTING THESE BAND-AIDS OR THIS BOTTLE OF ANTISEPTIC EITHER!
BAND
BUNS
SORA
.....
WHO ARE YOU PRAYING TO...?
THANKS FOR ALL THIS, SENPAI.


UV ENIRS
HM.M.
WHAT'S FUKUZAWA STARING AT SO INTENTLY?
PEEK
I FOUND SOME SOUVENIR APRONS.
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
I ♡ DANGO
I'M GONNA GO ASK IF THAT ONE ON THE MANNEQUIN IS FOR SALE.
BREWMASTER
OH, WOW. THEY MAKE STUFF LIKE THIS?
?!
NO, THAT'S OKAY.
I'M JUST BRINGING IT HOME.
YES, WE DO HAVE SOME IN STOCK. WOULD YOU LIKE A GIFT BAG FOR IT?
BREW
DIDN'T EXPECT HER TO BE THE TYPE OF WOMAN WHO WEARS HOUSEWIFE GEAR AT HOME.
SHE LOOKS REALLY HAPPY ABOUT THAT PURCHASE!
HEH HEH HEH!
BREWMA

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

DIRECTOR NARITA!
POKE POKE
COULD WE GET A WET TOWEL, PLEASE?
HEY, DIRECTOR!
LET'S CARRY HIM BACK TO HIS ROOM!
HOORAY!
HOORAY!
AWW YEAH! IT'S ONLY 9:17 P.M. AND THE DIRECTOR IS KNOCKED OUT!
LIKE A LIGHT.
SNOOORE
IS HE OUT?
SNOOORE
THANK YOU SO MU
OH, NO, I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ONE NIGHT.
I'M GOING TO GO GET SOME FRESH AIR.
ORINUKA FUKUNAGA-SA
STILL DRINKING, FUKUZAWA?

I'M BEAT. THAT WENT ON FOR WAY TOO LONG.
WHEW!
PLOP
すとん
SWAY
SWAY
BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY I REALLY WANT YUKICHI'S HOME COOKING...
GOING THROUGH WITH-DRAWAL
LUNCH AND DINNER WERE TASTY...
IT'S TOO DEPRES-SING!! TOO EMPTY!!
GOD OF HANGOVER CURES
NOOOOOOOO!!
I REFUSE TO LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE I CAN'T COME HOME TO YUKICHI'S FOOD AFTER A NIGHT OF DRINKING!
I WANNA DRINK HIS MISO SOUP! AND HIS TEA OVER RICE!
OH, BOSS. GOOD WORK TONIGHT.
STRAIGHTEN
THERE YOU ARE, FUKUZAWA.

I WAS JUST LOOKING FOR SOME COINS I DROPPED.
UH!
FLINCH
BEEP
KA-TUNK
WHAT WAS ALL THAT FLAILING JUST NOW?

HUH? DID I LOOK SICK?
SO I CAME TO CHECK UP ON YOU TO SEE IF YOU WERE STILL LOOKING QUEASY.
WE WERE PRETTY FAST AND LOOSE WITH THE DRINKS TONIGHT...

I'M TOTALLY FINE!
O-OH, STOP IT! I DON'T DO THAT ANY-MORE.
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT PASS OUT BEFORE THE DIRECTOR...
YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE DRINKING TO FORGET.

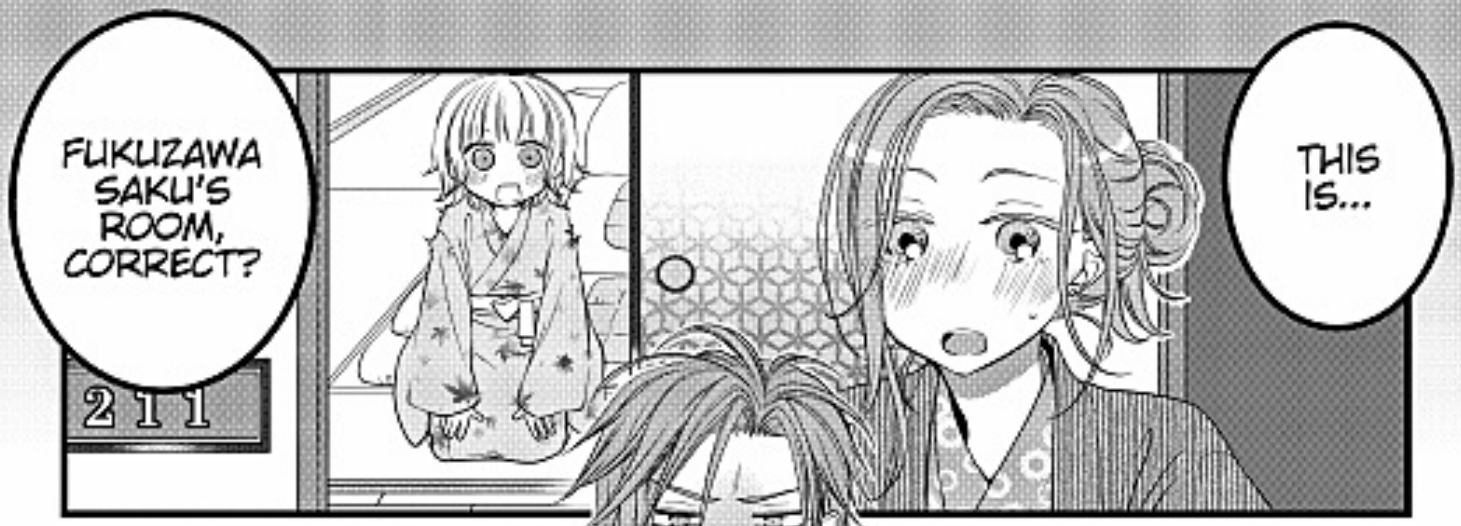
PFFT!
OKAY THEN. BY THE WAY, HOW'S YOUR CAT?

WHAT WAS THAT?!
KOFF!
Y-YOU JUST ASKED ABOUT MY CAT OUT OF NOWHERE...
HACK!
DID...DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HIM?
SORRY.
NOTHING HAPPENED!
HE'S WATCHING THE HOUSE WHILE I'M GONE.

IS IT OKAY TO LEAVE A CAT BY THEMSELVES OVERNIGHT?
PHEW...
IT'S FINE, IN OUR CASE.
IN FACT, HE MIGHT BE BETTER OFF WHILE I'M GONE.

I DON'T THINK THAT'S TRUE.
THEY SAY CATS BECOME ATTACHED TO THE HOME, NOT THE HUMAN, BUT...
A LONG TIME AGO, OUR FAMILY HAD A BLACK CAT WHO...

FUKUZAWA...?
SNOOZE
SERIOUSLY?


FUKUZAWA SAKU'S ROOM, CORRECT?
211
THIS IS...

HRMPH!
YES, IT IS.
Y...
ZZZ

C-C-CARRYING HER LIKE THAT?!
I DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE.
WHEW.
SHE PASSED OUT, AS YOU CAN SEE, SO I BROUGHT HER HERE.
D-DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO SAKU-SENPAI?!

TH-THANK YOU FOR THE HELP.
PFFF!
YUKATA SLIPPING OPEN.
ZZZ
SLIPPERS CAME OFF.

BASED ON HER BREATHING AND COMPLEXION, PROBABLY NOT.
SNOOORE
HE JUST LEFT HER HERE...
BUT WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH HER? IT'S NOT ALCOHOL POISONING, IS IT?
ARE YOU OKAY, SENPAI ?!
OH GOD, SHE'S UP!
ACK!
JOLT
DO YOU WANT WATER?! YOU SHOULD DRINK SOME WATER!!
PATTER PATTER
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOME-THING?
GLANCE
GLANCE
?
PLEASE! PULL YOUR-SELF TOGETH-ER!!
OH NO, FUKUZAWA'S STARTING TO LOSE IT!
MAYBE WE SHOULD CALL AN AMBULANCE AFTER ALL?!
HERE IT IS.
MY PHONE...
I GOTTA CALL MY CAT...

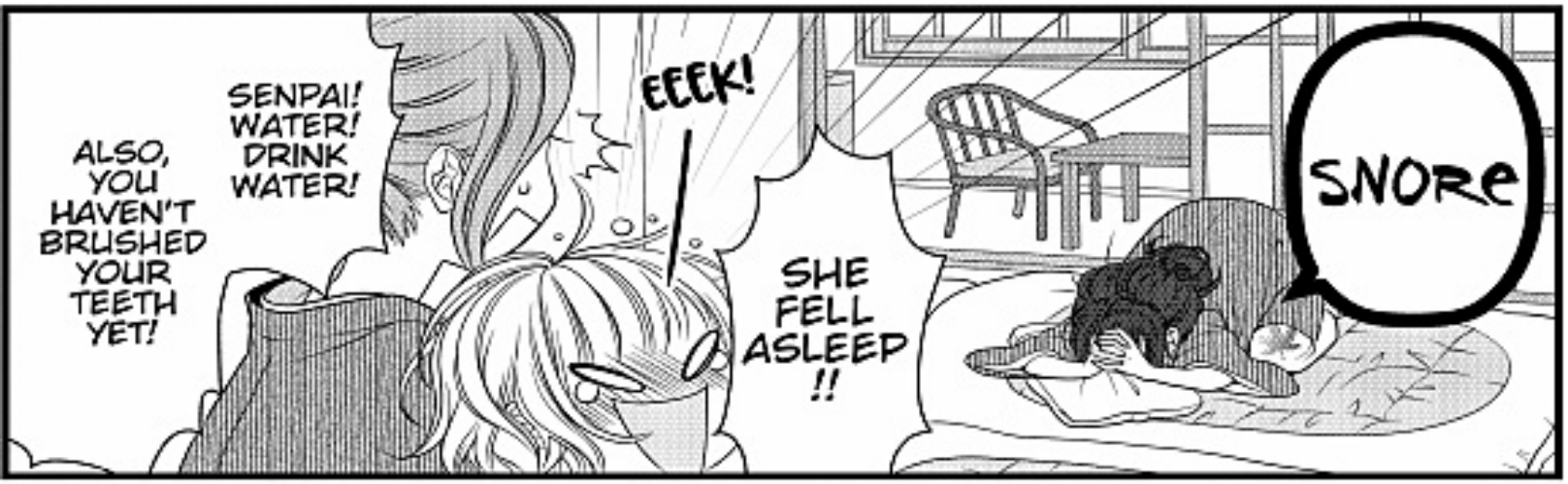
?
WORKING IN THE DARK, AS USUAL.
BRRR---ZZ
BRRR---ZZ
DID YOU REALLY CALL HIM?!
YOU'RE DRUNK, SENPAI...
?!
DID YOU EAT DINNER YET~?
OH! YUKICHI~? IT'S MEEE! ♡
CHAK
I CAN'T WAIT TO HAVE DINNER BACK AT HOME WITH YOU AGAIN.
I GOT YOU SOME SOUVENIRS, SO LOOK FORWARD TO THAT, OKAY?
I'VE BEEN REALLY LONELY WITHOUT YOU...

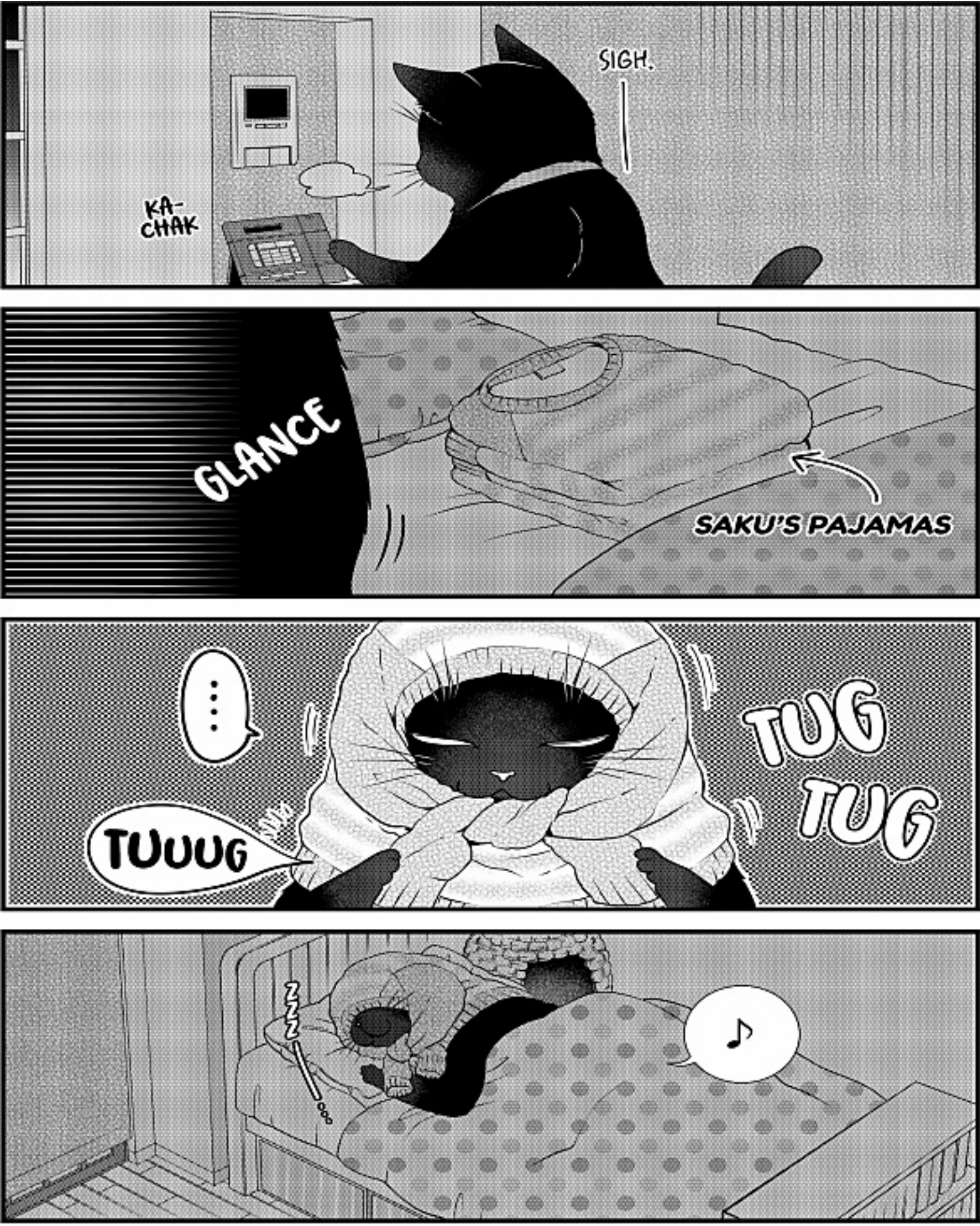
PURRRR…
PURRRR…
PURRRR…
PURRRR…

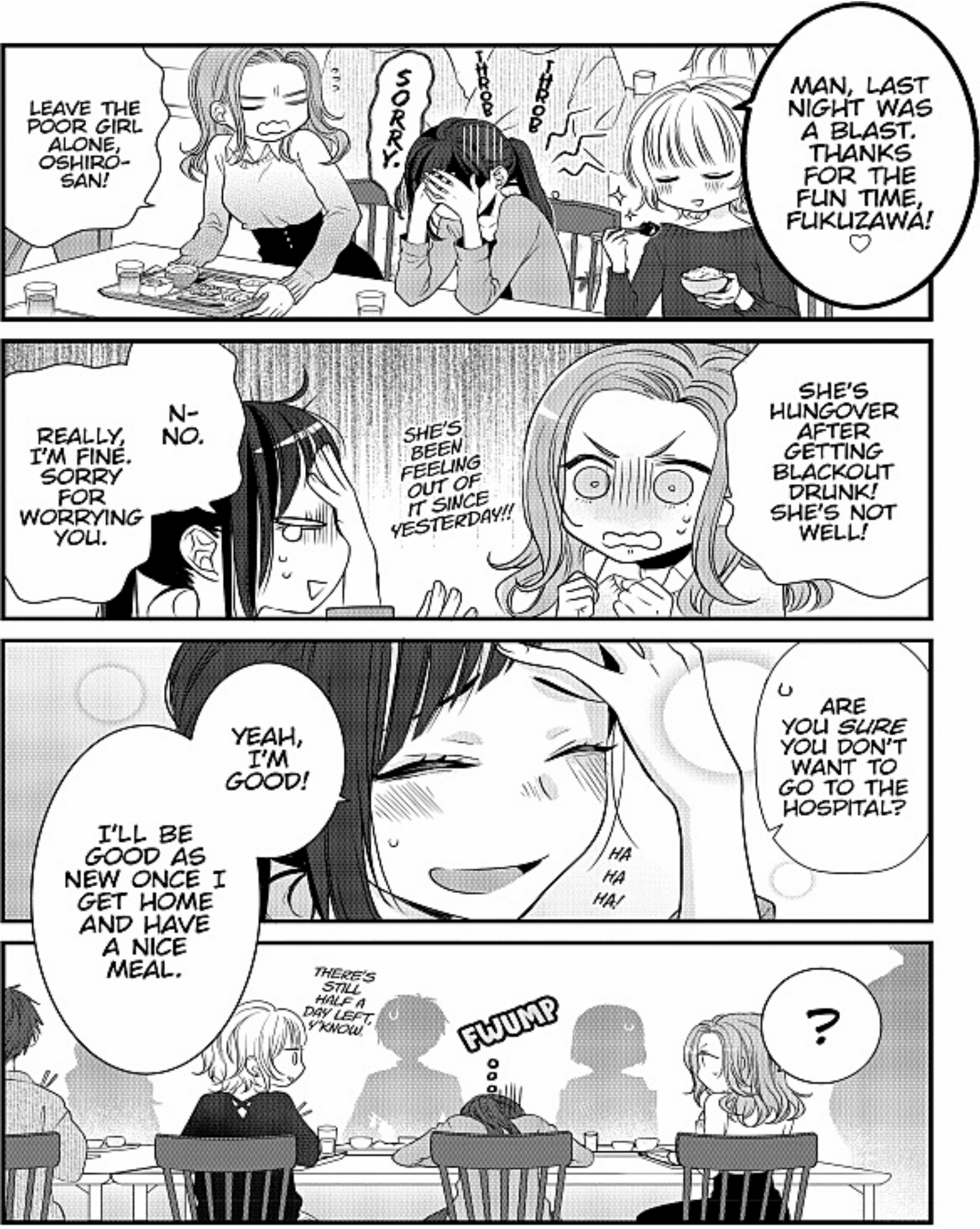
JEEZ, OSHIRO-SAN!
DONE AL-READY?
BEEP
OKAY, GOOD NIGHT!

IS SOMETHING WRONG?!
NOW WHAT IS SHE FREAKING OUT ABOUT ?!
ゴロゴロゴロ ROLLROLLROLL
ゴロゴロゴロ ROLLROLLROLL

IT'S A COMMON ILLNESS AMONG CAT OWNERS...
OH NO. IT'S TER-MINAL.
I'M SO SORRY.
HAAH!
HAAH!
MY CAT IS SO CUTE IT HURTS.

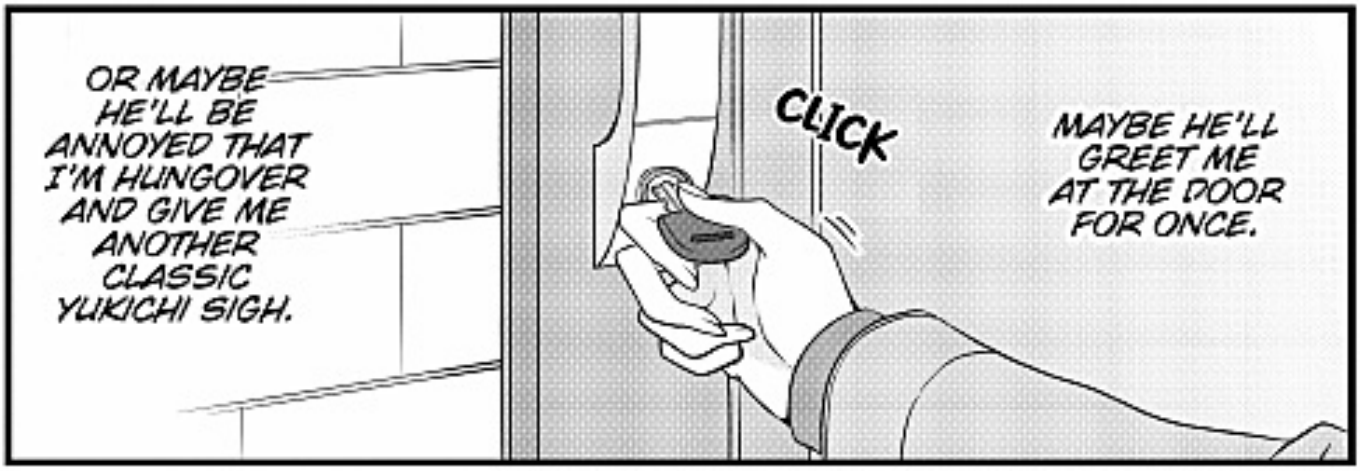

ALSO, YOU HAVEN'T BRUSHED YOUR TEETH YET!
SENPAI! WATER! DRINK WATER!
EEEK!
SHE FELL ASLEEP !!
SNORE


SIGH.
KA-CHAK
GLANCE
SAKU'S PAJAMAS
...
TUUUG
TUG
TUG
ZZZ
♪


LEAVE THE POOR GIRL ALONE, OSHIRO-SAN!
SORRY.
THROB
THROB
MAN, LAST NIGHT WAS A BLAST. THANKS FOR THE FUN TIME, FUKUZAWA!
REALLY, I'M FINE. SORRY FOR WORRYING YOU.
N-NO.
SHE'S BEEN FEELING OUT OF IT SINCE YESTERDAY!!
SHE'S HUNGOVER AFTER GETTING BLACKOUT DRUNK! SHE'S NOT WELL!
YEAH, I'M GOOD!
I'LL BE GOOD AS NEW ONCE I GET HOME AND HAVE A NICE MEAL.
HA HA HA!
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL?
THERE'S STILL HALF A DAY LEFT, Y'KNOW!
FWUMP
?

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I HAD TO TRAVEL WHILE HUNGOVER. THAT'S TRUE SUFFERING.
THUD
PHEW. I'M FINALLY HOME.

HOW YUKICHI IS DOING.
HAAH!
I WON-DER...

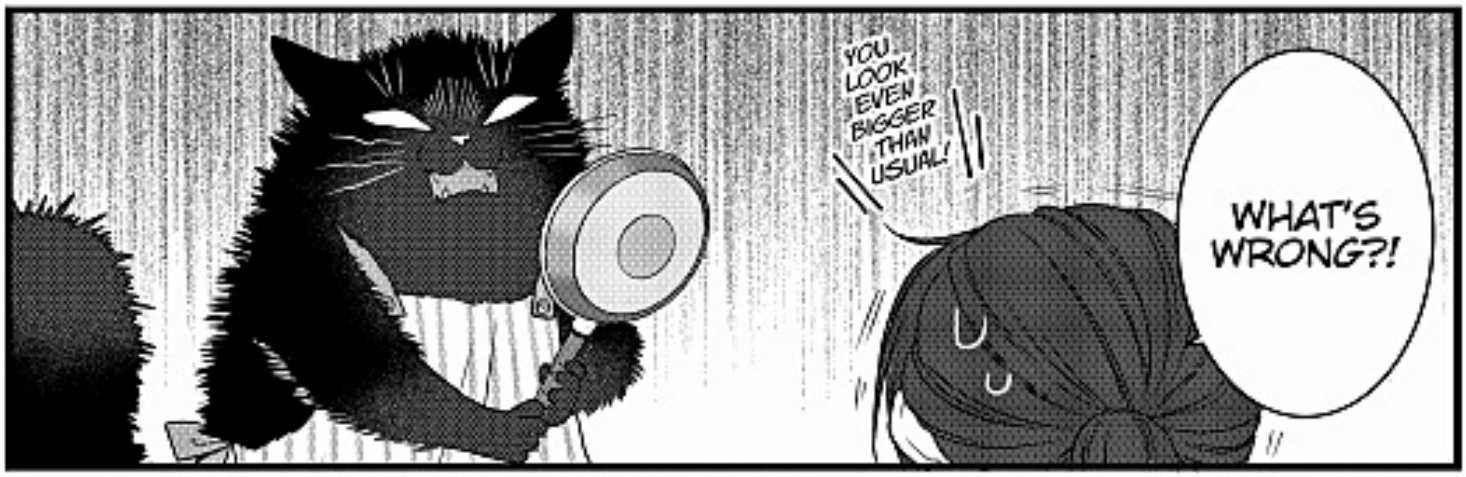

OR MAYBE HE'LL BE ANNOYED THAT I'M HUNGOVER AND GIVE ME ANOTHER CLASSIC YUKICHI SIGH.
CLICK
MAYBE HE'LL GREET ME AT THE DOOR FOR ONCE.

CREAK
KA-THUNK
I'M HOME, YUKICHI!

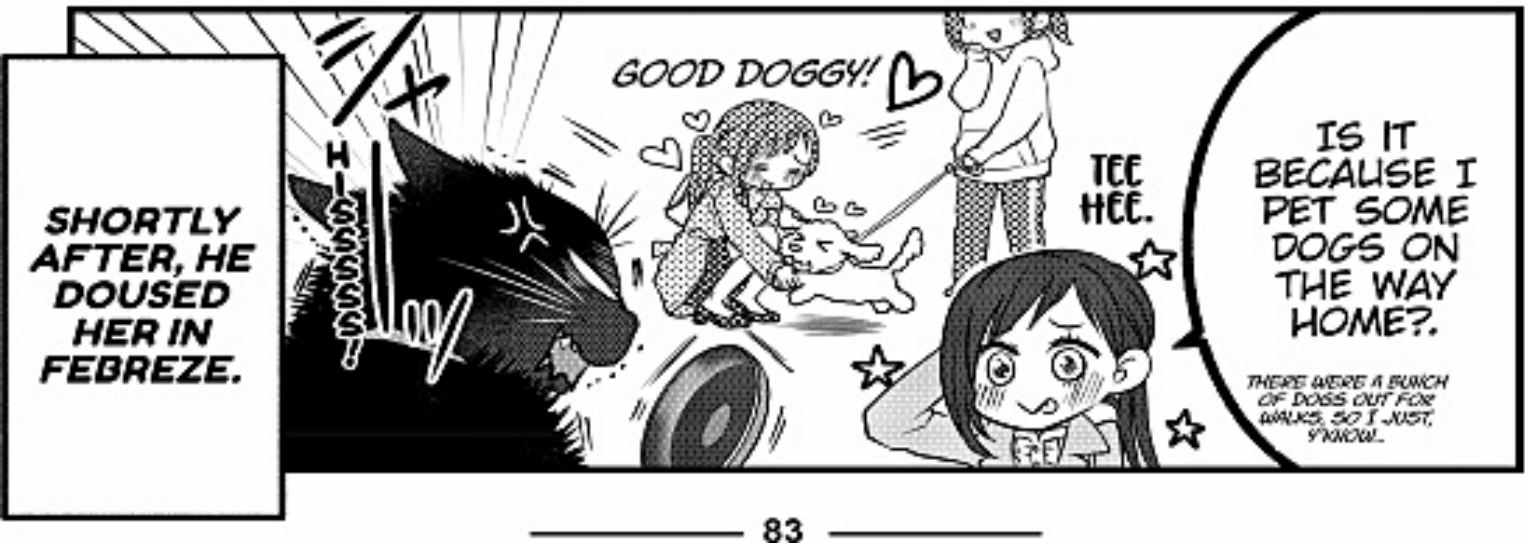
CAN 30 END

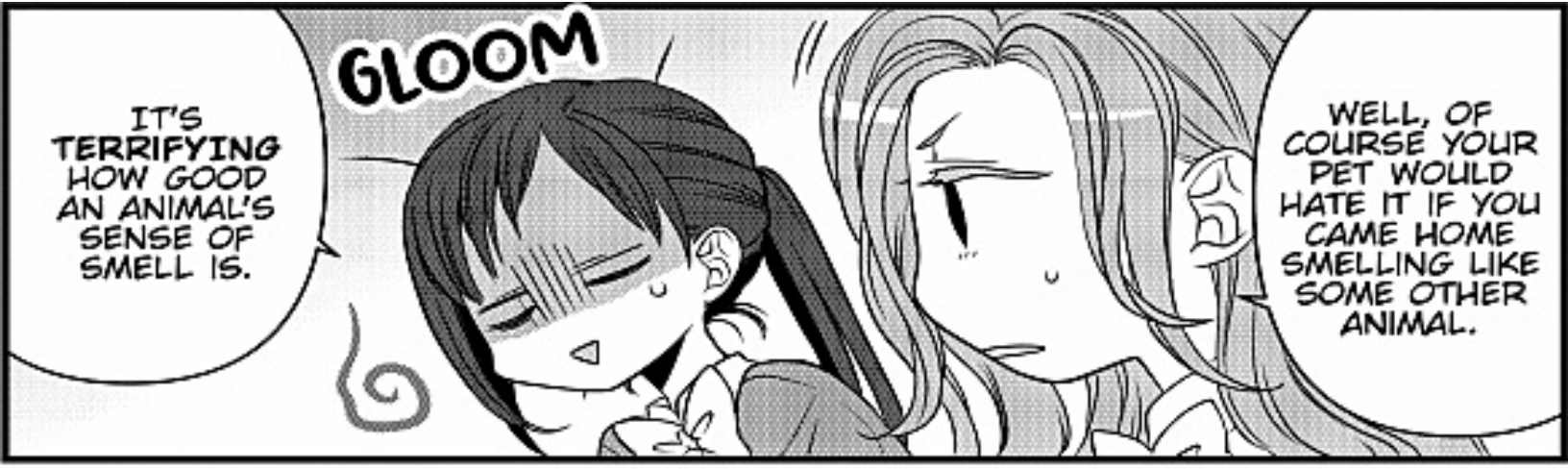
The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

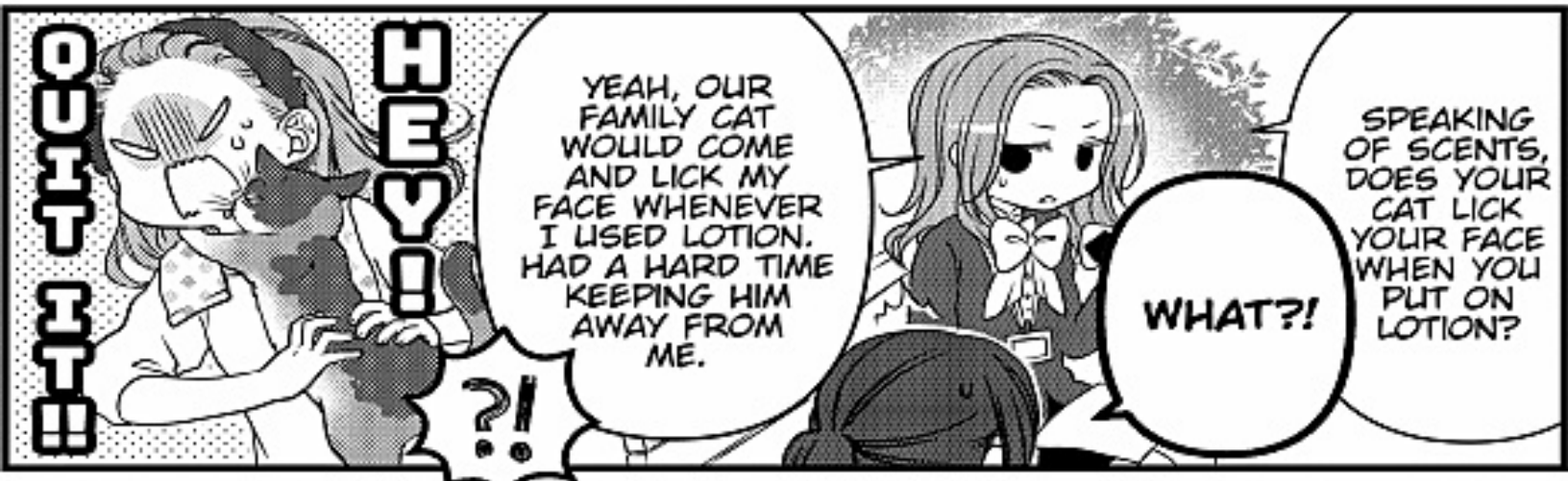
KER
CHAK
YUKICHI! I'M HOOOME!
OUR COMPANY ACTUALLY LET US LEAVE EARLY BECAUSE IT'S FRIDAY!
IT WAS STILL A LITTLE LIGHT OUT WHEN I GOT OFF WORK! I ALMOST CRI--


WHAT'S WRONG?!
YOU LOOK EVEN BIGGER THAN USUAL!

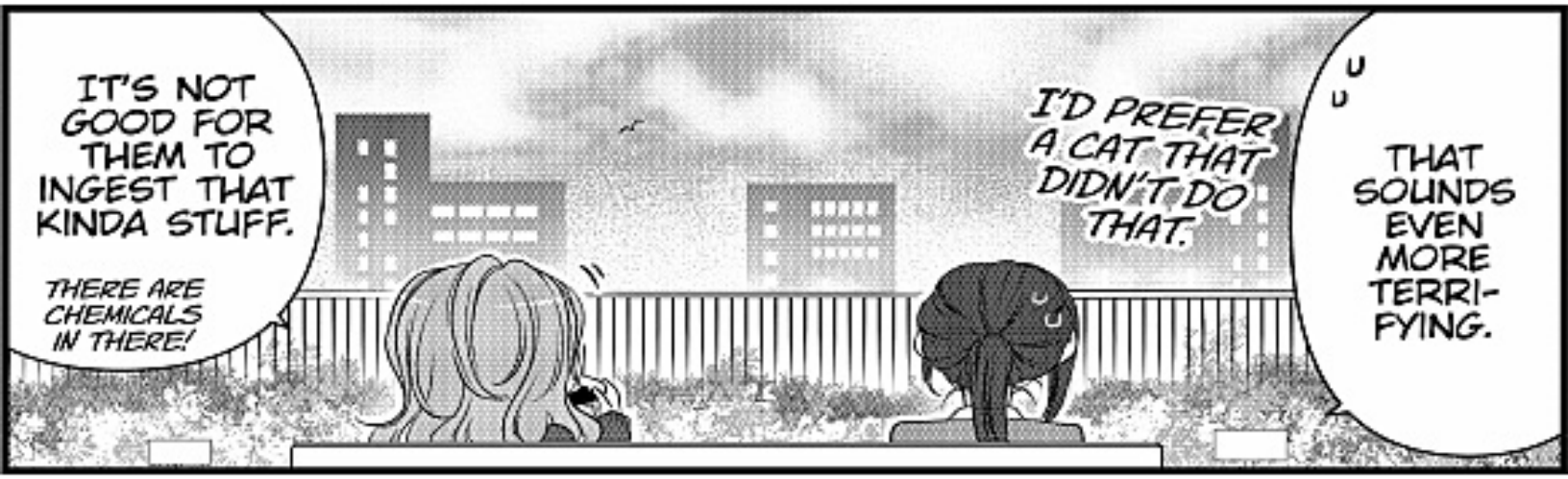
WAIT...
BRISTLE
BRISTLE
IS IT...


IS IT BECAUSE I PET SOME DOGS ON THE WAY HOME?.
THERE WERE A BUNCH OF DOGS OUT FOR WALKS, SO I JUST, Y'KNOW...
TEE HEE.
GOOD DOGGY!
HISSSSS!
SHORTLY AFTER, HE DOUSED HER IN FEBREZE.


GLOOM
IT'S TERRIFYING HOW GOOD AN ANIMAL'S SENSE OF SMELL IS.
WELL, OF COURSE YOUR PET WOULD HATE IT IF YOU CAME HOME SMELLING LIKE SOME OTHER ANIMAL.


OUCH IT!!
HEY!
?!
YEAH, OUR FAMILY CAT WOULD COME AND LICK MY FACE WHENEVER I USED LOTION. HAD A HARD TIME KEEPING HIM AWAY FROM ME.
WHAT?!
SPEAKING OF SCENTS, DOES YOUR CAT LICK YOUR FACE WHEN YOU PUT ON LOTION?

LIIICK
LIIICK
OWW! YOUR TONGUE.
SHUDDER
SOME CATS WILL EVEN LICK YOUR HAIR AFTER YOU'VE SHAMPOOED.


IT'S NOT GOOD FOR THEM TO INGEST THAT KINDA STUFF.
THERE ARE CHEMICALS IN THERE!
I'D PREFER A CAT THAT DIDN'T DO THAT.
THAT SOUNDS EVEN MORE TERRI-FYING.

DOESN'T MIND RUNNING INTO THEM OUTSIDE, BUT WON'T TOLERATE THEM INVADING HIS TERRITORY (INSIDE THE HOUSE).
SHAKE SHAKE
BREWMASTER

CAN 31 END

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

IN THE END, NOTHING BEATS YUKICHI'S HOME COOKING.
DELISH!
CHEW
CHEW
MMMMM!

AH! THANKS~!
ZIP
AND MORE HOT SAKE PLEASE!
YUKICH!!!!! IS THERE ANY MORE OF THIS WASABI POTATO SALAD?

HOME SWEET HOME!
LAZE
AHHH!

?!
FLINCH
POP!

I-I GUESS IT'S ABOUT TIME TO BUY A NEW SKIRT!

AH HA HA! HUH?! THAT'S WEIRD. MAYBE THE HOOK IS DEFECTIVE?!

NOT RIGHT AFTER I ATE!!

TOMP TOMP TOMP TOMP TOMP TOMP

BODY FAT SCALE

W-WAIT! NOT NOW!!

NOOOO-OOOO!! ST-STOP!!

BEEP BEEP BEEP

NOOOOOOOO!!

WHY THE HELL ARE YOU TAKING THIS HARDER THAN I AM?!

がっ

DESPAIR...

I'LL EXERCISE!!

I'LL EXERCISE AND LOSE THE WEIGHT!!

LOOSENING HER SKIRT

CONFISCATED

WAIT A MINUTE! LET'S NOT GET TOO HASTY HERE!!

MY SAKE! MY SNACK!

I'LL START TAKING THE STAIRS, I'LL RACEWALK EVERYWHERE, AND I'LL BE BACK TO NORMAL IN NO TIME! ♡

YEAH?

MM?

I JUST GAINED A TEENSY-WEENSY BIT OF WEIGHT 'CAUSE OF ALL THE DRINKING PARTIES AND THE COMPANY RETREAT!

PLEASE, IF I DON'T HAVE MY NIGHTLY DRINK AND SNACK, I...I...

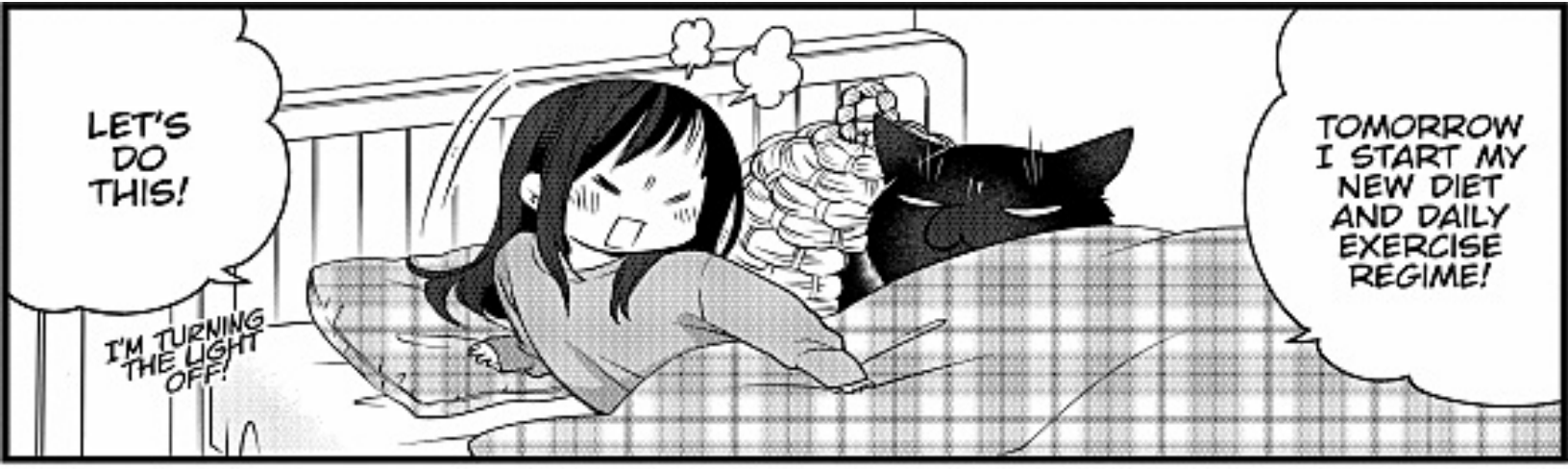
HNNNGH...

SO... LET'S JUST...

TAKE THIS *BACK.*

.....

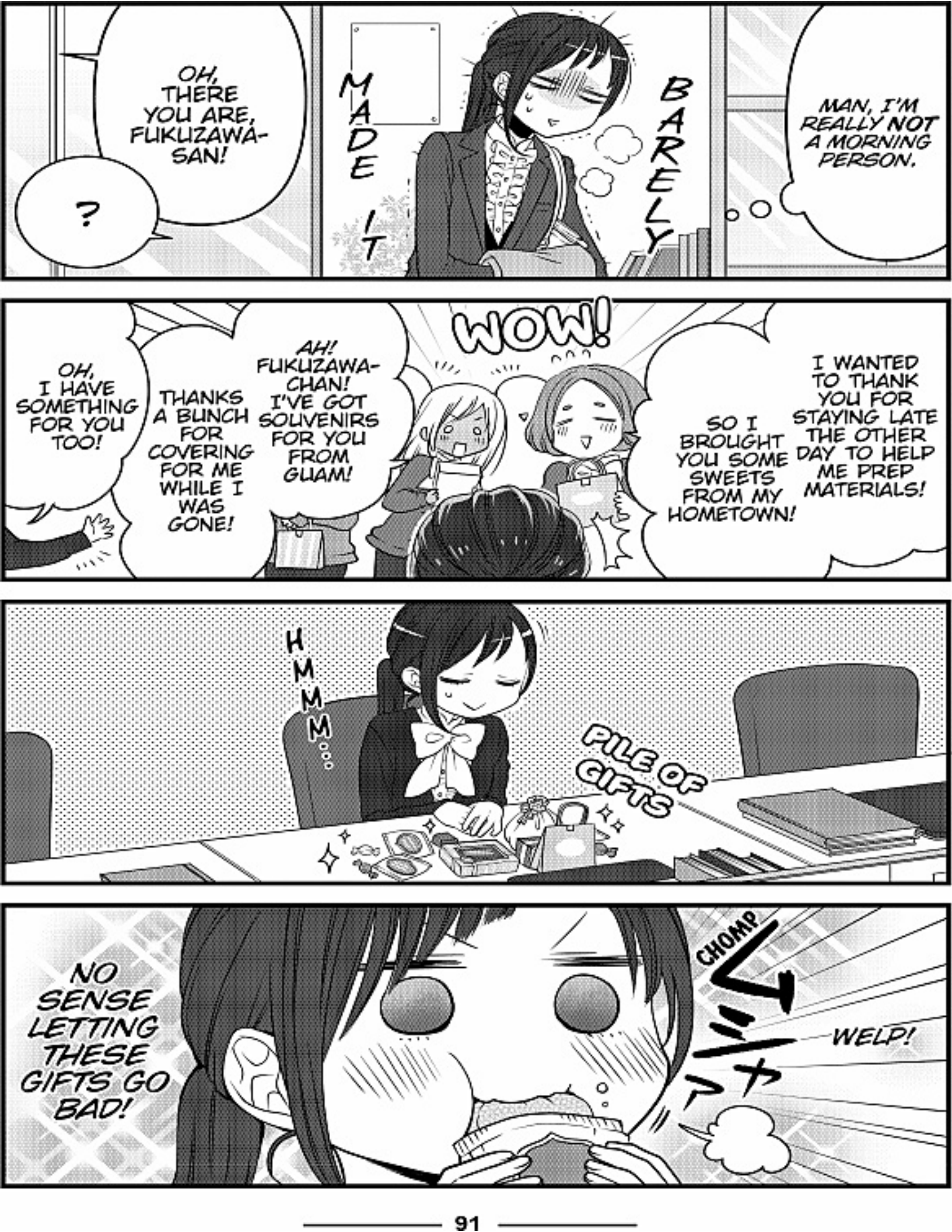
I DON'T KNOW. WHAT'S THE POINT? WHY DO I SLAVE AWAY DAY IN AND DAY OUT? WHY DO WE LIVE JUST TO SUFFER...?


LET'S DO THIS!
I'M TURNING THE LIGHT OFF!
TOMORROW I START MY NEW DIET AND DAILY EXERCISE REGIME!

I'LL BRING A BOTTLE OF MINERAL WATER WITH ME, AND...
I SHOULD WEAR SNEAKERS AND CHANGE SHOES AT THE OFFICE.
OKAY, LET'S START BY WAKING UP THIRTY MINUTES EARLIER AND WALKING TO THE STATION.

THESE ARE MIRACLE SHOES! GOTTA SNAG A PAIR!!
WOW, YOU BURN MORE CALORIES JUST BY WEARING THEM?!
THAT'S CRAZY!
OH HO...
MM? WHAT ARE "DIET SHOES"?
ACTUALLY...
HOW MANY CALORIES DO YOU BURN BY WALKING FOR THIRTY MINUTES ...?

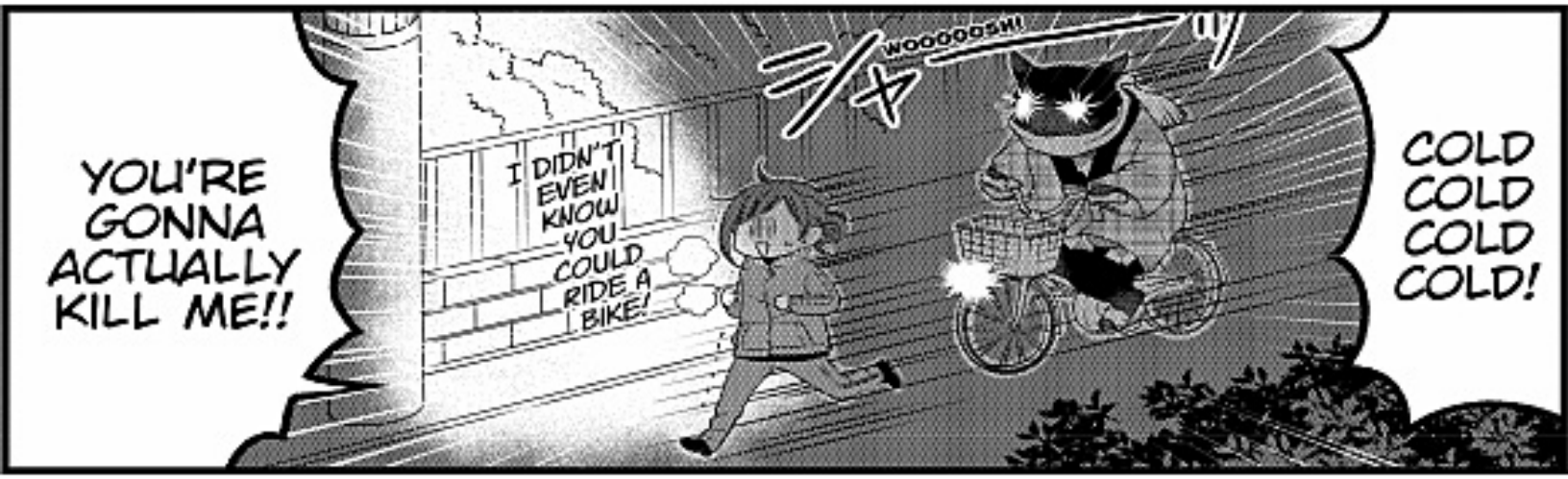
TAXI!!!!!!!!
I...
I OVER-SLEPT!!


OH, THERE YOU ARE, FUKUZAWA-SAN!
?
MADE IT
BARELY
MAN, I'M REALLY NOT A MORNING PERSON.
OH, I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU TOO!
THANKS A BUNCH FOR COVERING FOR ME WHILE I WAS GONE!
AH! FUKUZAWA-CHAN! I'VE GOT SOUVENIRS FOR YOU FROM GUAM!
WOW!
SO I BROUGHT YOU SOME SWEETS FROM MY HOMETOWN!
I WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR STAYING LATE THE OTHER DAY TO HELP ME PREP MATERIALS!
HMMM...
PILE OF GIFTS
NO SENSE LETTING THESE GIFTS GO BAD!
CHOMP
WELP!

HOW STRANGE! WHAT COULD POSSIBLY HAVE CAUSED THIS?
HUH ?!
FUME
FUME
FUME
SHE GAINED MORE WEIGHT.

I'LL DIE WITHOUT THEM! PLEASE! HAVE MERCY!
WAIT, WAIT! ANYTHING BUT THAT!
GRAB
AHHHHHH!

PHEW!
SIGH...
.....


YOU'RE GONNA ACTUALLY KILL ME!!
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOU COULD RIDE A BIKE!
WOOOOOSH!
COLD COLD COLD COLD!

ONE MONTH LATER.
I LOST OVER A POUND!
WHOA!

AT THIS RATE, WE CAN CUT BACK ON THE DIETING AND STILL TAKE OUR TIME LOSING WEI--
くるっ TURN
I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU, YUKICHI! THANKS FOR JOGGING AND WORKING OUT WITH ME!

※YUKICHI
FLINCH
FLEX

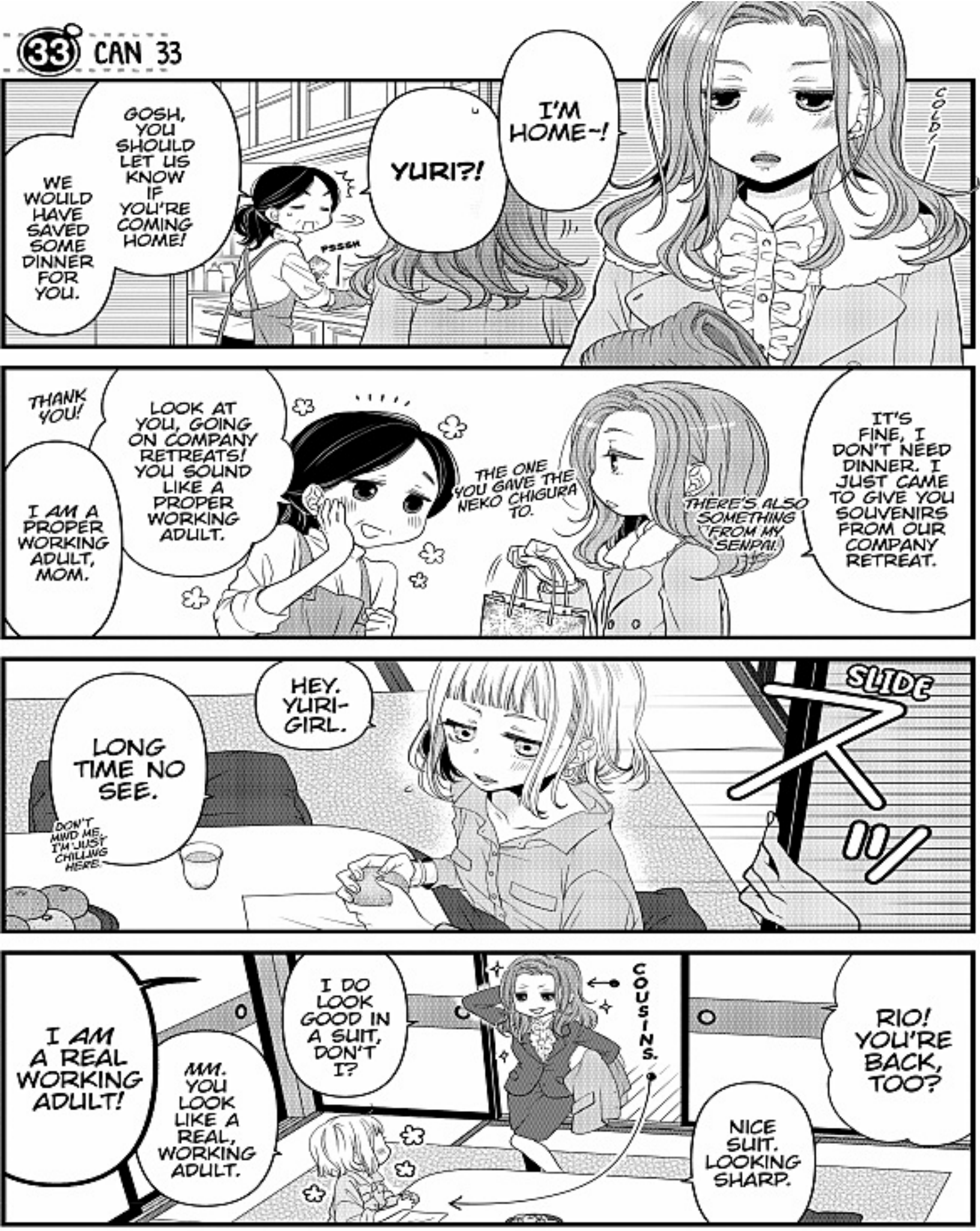
ONE WEEK LATER, SHE RETURNED TO HER NORMAL WEIGHT.
THOUGH SHE CUT OUT ALCOHOL AND CONTINUED DIETING...
HMPH!!
NOOOOO!!
BUFF
OH GOD, THERE'S NO TIME TO TAKE IT SLOW!!
THAT'S NOT CUTE AT ALL!!!

YUKICHI ALSO RETURNED TO HIS NORMAL FORM.

CAN 32 END

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

33 CAN 33


I'M HOME~!
COLD!
YURI?!
GOSH, YOU SHOULD LET US KNOW IF YOU'RE COMING HOME!
WE WOULD HAVE SAVED SOME DINNER FOR YOU.
PSSSH
IT'S FINE, I DON'T NEED DINNER. I JUST CAME TO GIVE YOU SOUVENIRS FROM OUR COMPANY RETREAT.
THERE'S ALSO SOMETHING FROM MY SENPAI.
THE ONE YOU GAVE THE NEKO CHIGURA TO.
LOOK AT YOU, GOING ON COMPANY RETREATS! YOU SOUND LIKE A PROPER WORKING ADULT.
THANK YOU!
I AM A PROPER WORKING ADULT, MOM.
SLIDE
HEY. YURI-GIRL.
LONG TIME NO SEE.
DON'T MIND ME, I'M JUST CHILLING HERE.
RIO! YOU'RE BACK, TOO?
NICE SUIT. LOOKING SHARP.
COUSINS.
I DO LOOK GOOD IN A SUIT, DON'T I?
MM. YOU LOOK LIKE A REAL, WORKING ADULT.
I AM A REAL WORKING ADULT!

I HEARD YOU MOVED OUT. YOU'RE LIVING BY YOURSELF NOW?

AHHHH, NICE AND TOASTY

YEP.

AND AUNTIE SAID I COULD HAVE THE TV IN YOUR ROOM.

THAT OLD THING? TAKE IT, TAKE IT.

STILL THROWING YOURSELF INTO YOUR PART-TIME WORK?

PEEL

PEEL

YEAH, I'M PRETTY SURE THE OTHER PART-TIMERS THINK I WORK THESE PART-TIME JOBS FOR A LIVING.

YOU WORK TOO MUCH, HA HA.

YOU SHOULD WORK ON YOUR LOVE LIFE INSTEAD, WHILE YOU'RE STILL IN SCHOOL.

BONK

ONCE YOU START WORKING, YOU STOP MEETING NEW PEOPLE.

PLEASE, TELL THIS OLD, JADED WOMAN A LOVE STORY.

LOVE ...?

WELL, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT LOVE, BUT...

DAY DREAMING

ポワワ

THERE IS SOMEONE.

FOR REAL?!

PERK
IS IT A CUSTOMER FROM WORK?!
YEAH.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW THEIR NAME YET.
WHO?! WHAT?! HOW?!

THEY WERE SUPER STRONG. I THINK THEY DO MARTIAL ARTS.
AND THEY STEPPED IN AND CAME TO MY RESCUE.
THEY HAPPENED TO PASS BY WHEN MY EX WAS HARASSING ME...

IT WAS HER.
OH NO, ALL I CAN PICTURE IS SAKU-SENPAI!
STOP THAT RIGHT NOW!
BA-THUMP
SHIMMER
ポワワワ〜〜
OH MY GOD! THAT'S LIKE AN ACTUAL FATEFUL ENCOUN-TER!

HEH...
THAT MYSTERIOUS CAT
THERE'S A ROOM-MATE (OR SOMETHING) IN THE PICTURE.
BREWMA
I'M...NOT SURE IF THEY'RE DATING OR SOMETHING, BUT...
DO YOU KNOW IF HE'S SINGLE?

I HAVEN'T DATED IN YEARS. MY LOVE LIFE IS NON-EXISTENT.

YOU'RE NOT SEEING ANYONE RIGHT NOW, ARE YOU?

I'M JEALOUS.

I SEE. BUT STILL, I'M HAPPY FOR YOU. HE SEEMS LIKE A STRONG AND KIND PERSON.

BEATS ME.

SIGH!

WHERE ARE ALL THE GOOD MEN, RIO?

?!

FINDING MARRIAGE MATERIAL IS ROUGH.

AT THIS POINT I'VE STARTED WONDERING IF I SHOULD JUST DATE **WOMEN.**

DON'T FREAK OUT, I WAS JUST JOKING!!

FOR NOW!!

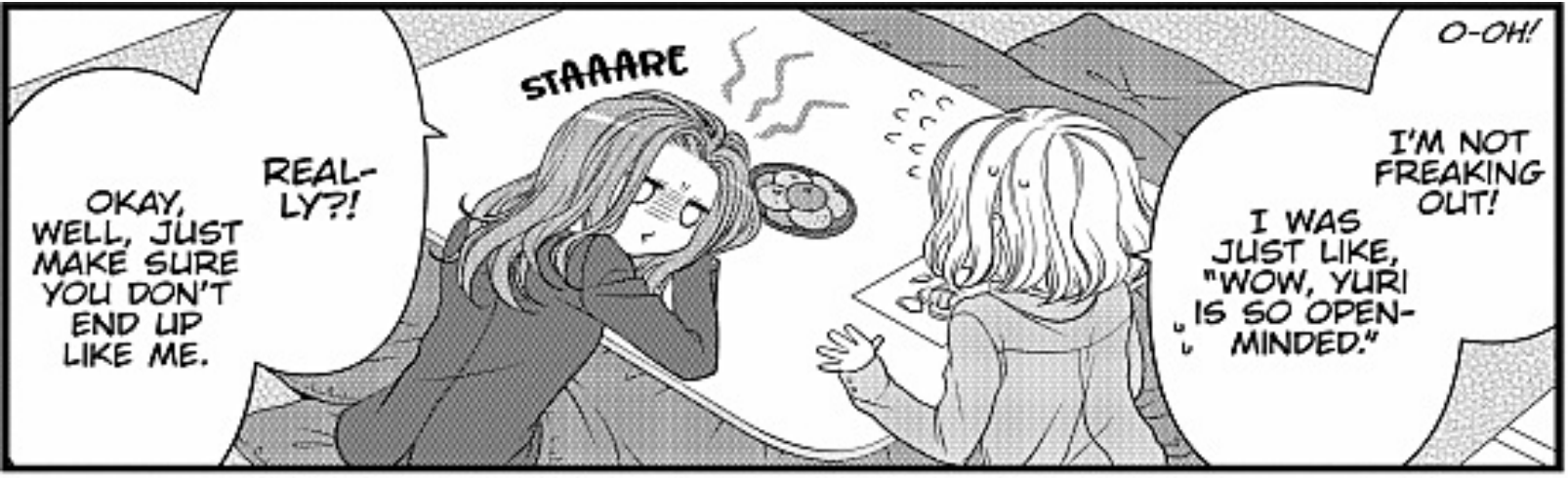
WHAT'S WITH THE AWKWARD SILENCE?!

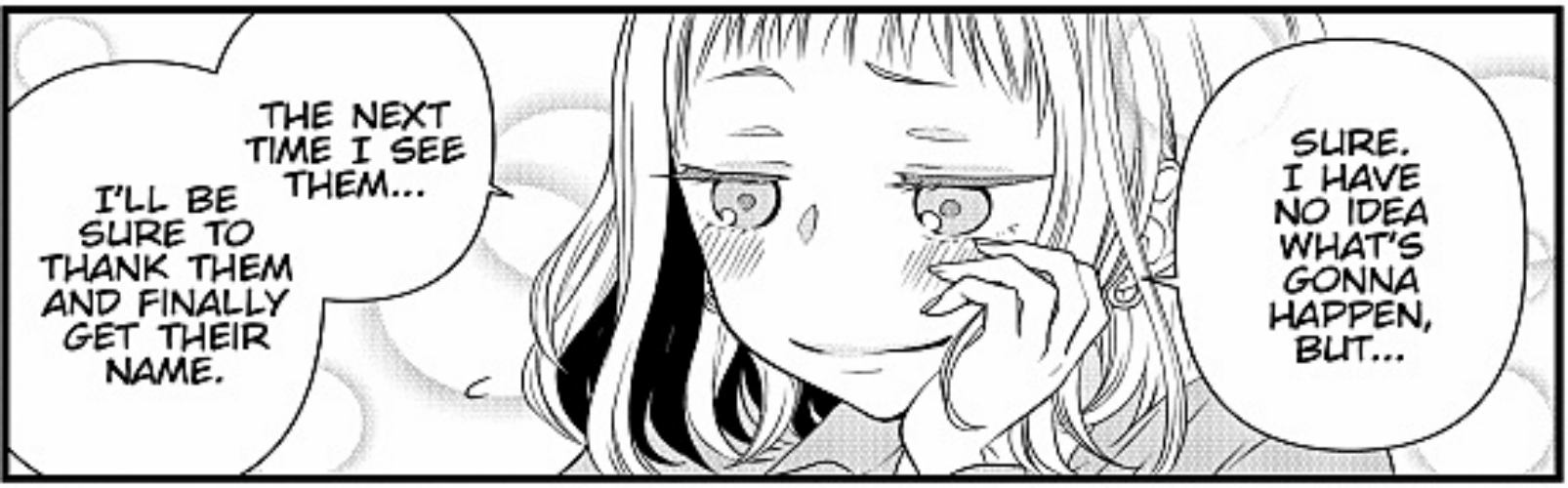
NO, THAT'LL JUST MAKE THINGS AWKWARD.

GULP...

ごくり...

SHOULD... SHOULD I SAY SOMETHING LIKE, "I WAS LITERALLY JUST THINKING THE SAME THING. ✿"?





* In Japan, it's believed that sneezing is a sign someone is talking about you.

DO YOU GUYS JUST NEVER GO GROCERY SHOPPING TOGETHER?
SO, HOW HAS YOUR, UM, FRIEND BEEN?
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

CAN 33 END

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

CAT GRASS.

BUT IN TRUTH, NO ONE IS COMPLETELY CERTAIN WHY CATS EAT CAT GRASS.

CHAK

OTHERS SAY IT HELPS WITH SPITTING OUT HAIR-BALLS.

THERE ARE MANY THEORIES AS TO WHY CATS EAT CAT GRASS. SOME SAY THEY CONSUME IT FOR ITS VITAMINS.

AND SOME CATS COULDN'T CARE LESS...

SNIP

SNIP

SNIP

SNIP

SOME CATS GO CRAZY FOR IT....

♪

SUPER-SIZED

LEADING US TO BELIEVE THAT SOME CATS SIMPLY EAT IT BECAUSE THEY ENJOY IT.

SPLISH
SPLASH
PSSSH

※ STRAINING
SHAKA
SHAKA
SHAKA
SHAKA

CAT GRASS SALAD
• CAT GRASS: AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE
• NORI: TO TASTE
• DRIED BONITO: TO TASTE
TA-DA!

♪

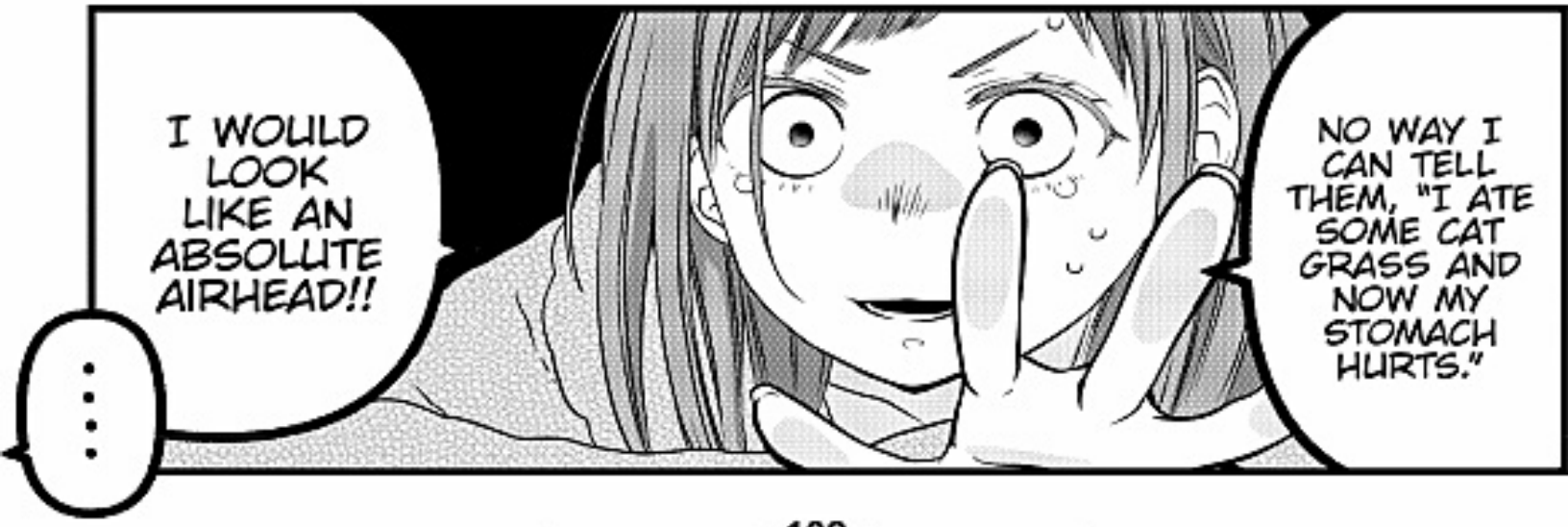
ポピーン
DELIVERY!
DING
DONG!
KA-CHAK
MMM.
HUNGRY.
GOOD MORNING! IF YOU COULD SIGN OR STAMP HERE... THANK YOU!!
MUNCH
MUNCH
HEY YUKICHI, WHAT IS THIS VEGETABLE? IT'S LIKE... TOUGH AND BITTER...
...
MUNCH
MUNCH
EUGH.
?
MUNCH MUNCH
PANIC
?!

STOP! I'M GONNA BARF!!
CHOKING FIRST AID: BACK BLOWS!
BLEGH!
THWAK
THWAK
HRK! GEH! WHA! WHAT?!
SO THAT'S WHY IT WAS SO TOUGH AND BITTER!!
IT WAS CAT GRASS ?!
YOINK
I WAS THIS CLOSE TO THROWING UP...
WHAT?! YOU MEAN THIS SALAD WASN'T FOR ME?!
I KNOW THERE'S A BUNCH OF HUMAN FOODS THAT ARE POISONOUS TO CATS...
LIKE ONIONS AND CHOCOLATE...
IS...IS IT SAFE FOR HUMANS TO EAT CAT GRASS?

"CAT GRASS IS A GENERIC TERM THAT ENCOMPASSES VARIOUS PLANTS AND GRASSES THAT CATS LIKE TO EAT. IT DOES NOT REFER TO A SPECIFIC PLANT." SO WHAT IS IT, THEN?!
OH MY GOD. WHAT IS CAT GRASS?! IS THAT THE REAL NAME OF THE PLANT?!
what is cat grass

!!
FLOP...
URGH. I THINK MY S TOMACH IS STARTING TO HURT...

?!
I'M STILL CONSCIOUS AND I CAN WALK BY MYSELF!
WAIT!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! DON'T CALL AN AMBU-LANCE!!


I WOULD LOOK LIKE AN ABSOLUTE AIRHEAD!!
NO WAY I CAN TELL THEM, "I ATE SOME CAT GRASS AND NOW MY STOMACH HURTS."
.....

IT WAS A MIX OF OATS AND BARLEY.
YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT THOSE SEEDS WERE THAT I GAVE TO YUKICHI A WHILE BACK?
I IMAGINE THEY DON'T TASTE VERY GOOD RAW! HA HA HA!
THEY ARE CONSIDERED HEALTH FOODS, BUT...
INSURANCE CARD AND MEDICATION RECORD.
AH...YES.
OH? DID SAKU ACCIDENTALLY EAT SOME?
THE STRANGE, NEW FOOD THREW HER DIGESTIVE SYSTEM FOR A LOOP.
FIDGET
FIDGET
WC
SOB
SOB
SOB
LATER.
I'M NOT GONNA MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE TWICE, OKAY?!
AND WHERE DID YOU EVEN FIND A SIGN LIKE THAT?!
BEWARE OF CAT
TA DA
NOW YUKICHI USES A SPECIAL PLATE FOR HIS FOOD.

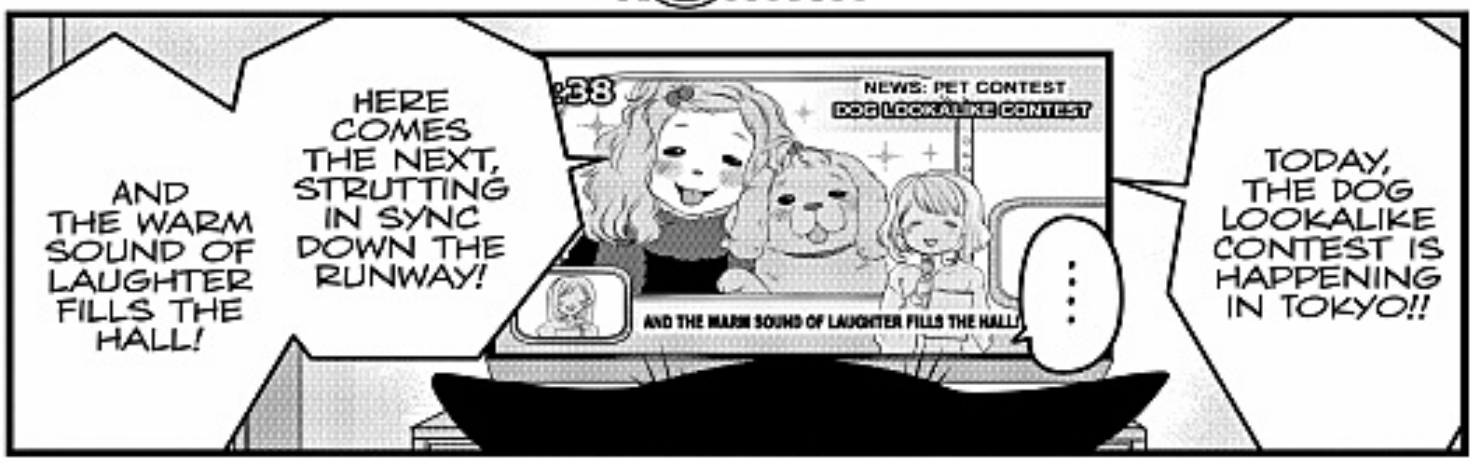
DANGEROUS!!

FOODS THAT ARE POISONOUS TO CATS

- ✩ CACAO (CHOCOLATE, COCOA)
- ✩ AVOCADOS
- ✩ GRAPES (RAISINS)
- ✩ ONIONS
- ✩ (DRIED) SQUID
- ✩ SHELLFISH (ABALONE)
- ✩ CAFFEINE
- ✩ ALCOHOL, ETC...

CAN 34 END

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today


AND THE WARM SOUND OF LAUGHTER FILLS THE HALL!
HERE COMES THE NEXT, STRUTTING IN SYNC DOWN THE RUNWAY!
NEWS: PET CONTEST
DOG LOOKALIKE CONTEST
AND THE WARM SOUND OF LAUGHTER FILLS THE HALL!
TODAY, THE DOG LOOKALIKE CONTEST IS HAPPENING IN TOKYO!!

BUT IS IT THE OWNERS THAT BECOME LIKE THEIR PETS, OR PETS THAT BECOME LIKE THEIR OWNERS?
?!
YOU KNOW, PEOPLE OFTEN SAY THAT PETS LOOK LIKE THEIR OWNERS.
THEY ALL REALLY DO LOOK JUST LIKE THEIR PETS!

A KILLI-FISH.
HA HA!
BA-THUMP
BA-THUMP
BA-THUMP
OH REALLY? WHAT KIND OF PET WAS IT?
I'M JUST GONNA SAY THAT MY FATHER DEFINITELY BECAME MORE LIKE HIS PET.

HMPH.
SAKU, YUKICHI VERSION.
SIIIGH
TCH!
SHUDDER
SHUDDER

!!
TCH!
DUST
SWIPE

HEH.
TSS
FSS
FSS
PSS
FSS
!!

DON'T STARE AT IT, HONEY.
MAMA, LOOK!
HYUUU
PLEASE TAKE ME HOME
IS THAT A STRAY BEAR?!

SHAKE
SHAKE
!!

ビクッ FLINCH

ガチャ KER-CHAK

I'M HOME...

AAARE

ギュッ GLAAA

?

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?

EEEEEEEP

!!

もみ RUB

もみ RUB

I'VE GOT A MAJOR HEADACHE FROM STARING AT COMPUTER SCREENS ALL DAY.

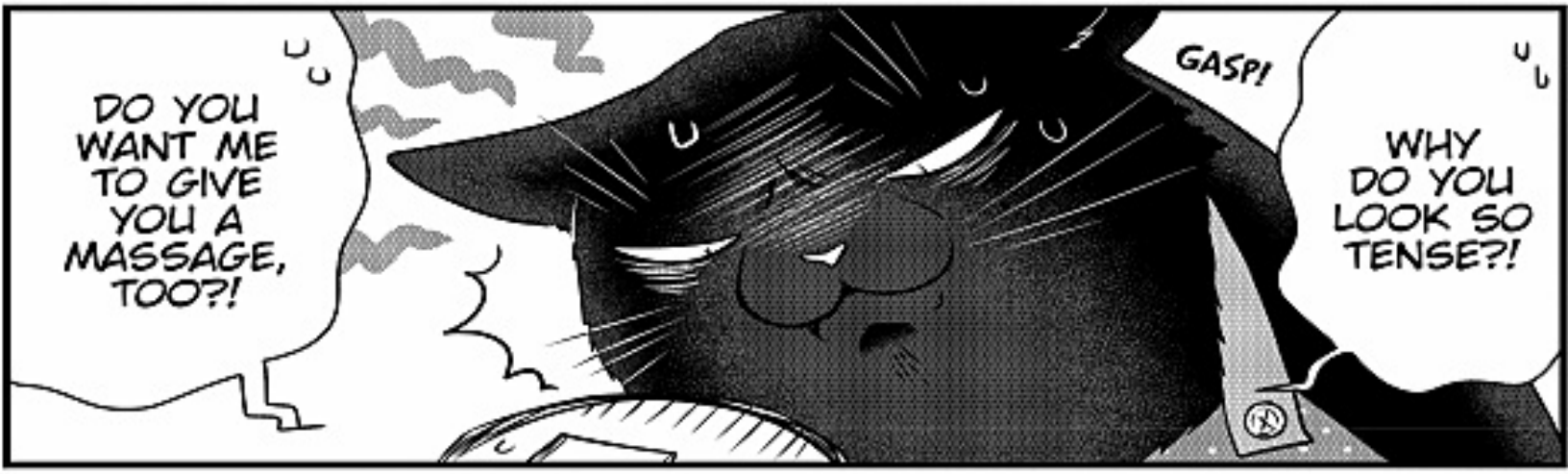
DO WE HAVE ANY PAIN-KILLERS?

I FORGOT TO PUT ON MY BLUE LIGHT GLASSES.

ALL MY STRESS IS JUST MELTING AWAY.
RUB もみ
RUB もみ
RUB もみ
AHHHH. THAT HITS THE SPOT. I FEEL LIKE I'M AT THE SPA.

AHH~! THANKS, YUKICHI.
I FEEL A BIT B--
HOT TOWEL

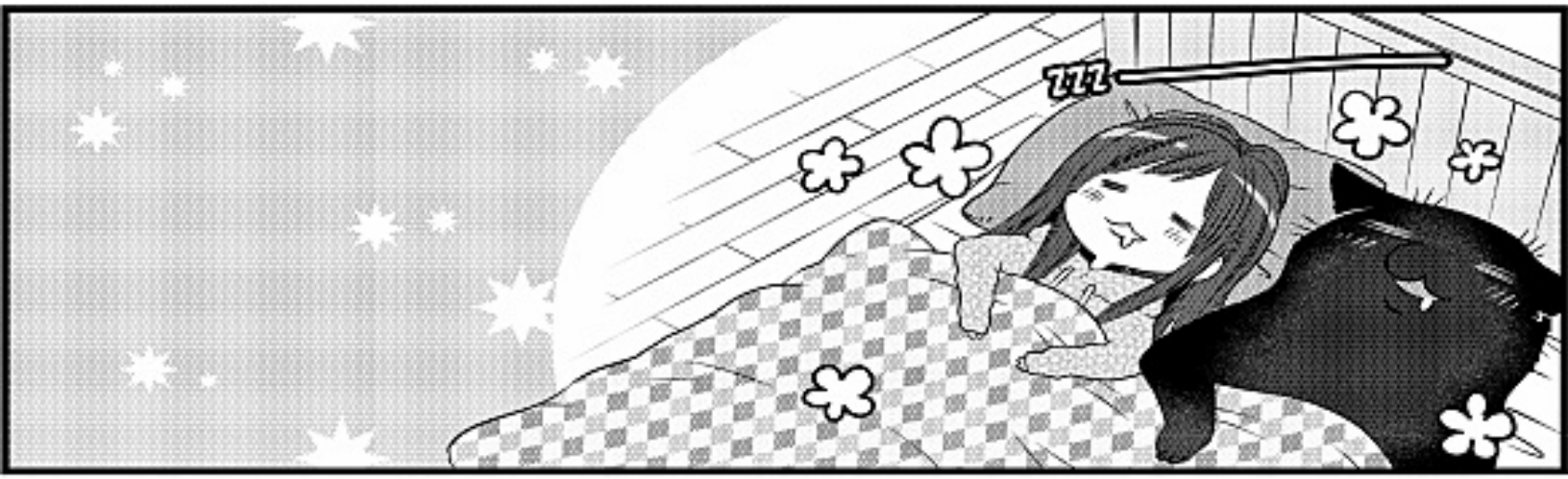
?!

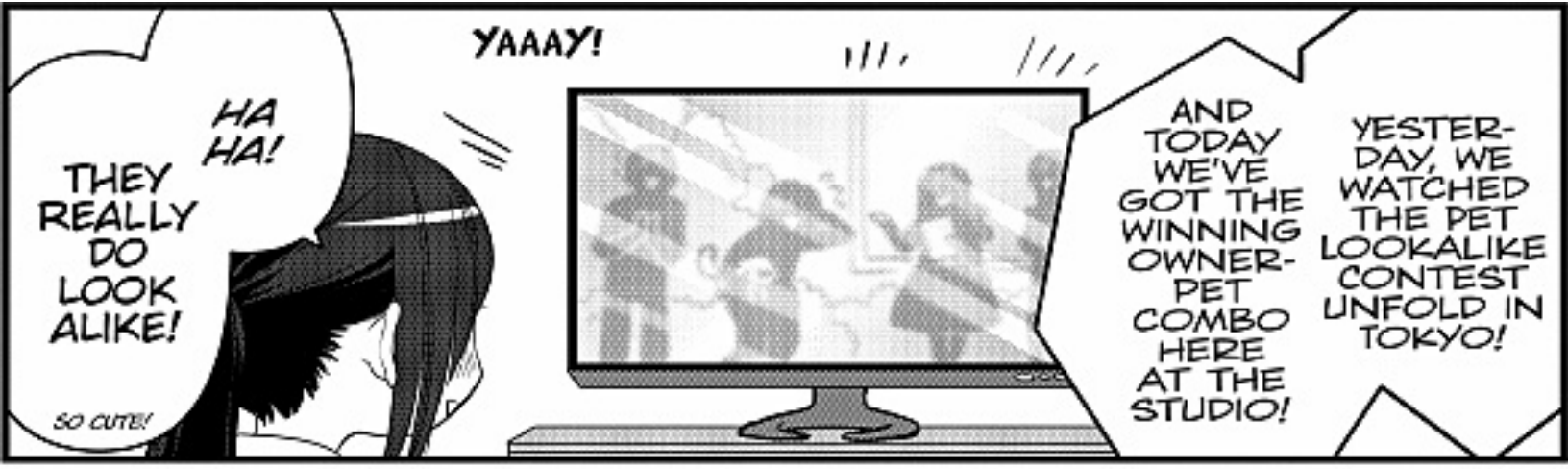

DO YOU WANT ME TO GIVE YOU A MASSAGE, TOO?!
GASP!
WHY DO YOU LOOK SO TENSE?!

FLOP
THANKS, YUKICHI.
GOOD NIGHT...
MY HEADACHE IS ALL GONE!

ZZZ

SNORE


ZZZ


YAAAY!
HA HA!
THEY REALLY DO LOOK ALIKE!
SO CUTE!
AND TODAY WE'VE GOT THE WINNING OWNER-PET COMBO HERE AT THE STUDIO!
YESTER-DAY, WE WATCHED THE PET LOOKALIKE CONTEST UNFOLD IN TOKYO!

I GUESS WHEN YOU EAT AND SLEEP TOGETHER FOR YEARS AND YEARS, YOU...
THE SAME IS ALSO TRUE FOR MARRIED COUPLES, ISN'T IT?
WHAT?!
?!
SO I GUESS IT IS TRUE THAT OWNERS AND PETS BECOME MORE LIKE EACH OTHER OVER TIME!

BUT LIKE ME...?
YAWN!
FOOOOD!
PURR
PURR

?
JUST BIGGER.
WAIT.
THAT'S BASICALLY A REGULAR CAT.

CAN 35 END

VRRREEEEE
CONTINUED IN VOLUME 4!!

AFTERWORD

WITH A GREAT SIGH OF RELIEF, I PRESENT VOLUME 3 OF *THE MASTERFUL CAT IS DEPRESSED AGAIN TODAY.* I'M SO GLAD WE WERE ABLE TO PUT OUT THIS VOLUME, AND I HOPE YOU ALL ENJOYED IT.

I WAS PARTICULARLY EXCITED ABOUT THIS VOLUME'S BONUS CHAPTER BECAUSE IT'S WRITTEN FROM YUKICHI'S PERSPECTIVE, WHICH WE DON'T GET TO SEE ALL THAT OFTEN. (ALTHOUGH I'M TOTALLY OVER DRAWING SAKU'S MESSY APARTMENT...)

I DON'T HAVE AN ASSISTANT, SO PROGRESS IS SLOW, BUT I'LL CONTINUE TO WORK HARD SO THAT I CAN DRAW THE NEXT CHAPTER OF YUKICHI'S LIFE AS A KITTEN. SEE YOU IN VOLUME 4!

HITSUZI YAMADA

BONUS YUKICHI LEAVES THE FUKUZAWA HOUSE

ごちゃ〜 CLUTTERED

FOR ONE, WHY DON'T ANY GARBAGE TRUCKS...

COME TO THIS GARBAGE DUMP?!

VRRR VRRR

AND WHY...

SNOOOORE

DOES THIS HUMAN SEEMS COMPLETELY UNFAZED BY THE STATE OF THIS PLACE?

HOW CAN SHE SLEEP SO SOUNDLY SITTING IN THE DOOR-WAY, DAY AFTER DAY?!

VRR VRR VRR

EVER SINCE THAT SNOWY NIGHT...

MY HEAD HAS BEEN SWIRLING WITH QUESTIONS.

THWACK
OW!
HUH?! IT'S MORNING?!
OH GOD, I'M SO SORRY, YUKICHI! YOU MUST BE STARVING!
I'LL GET YOU SOME KIBBLE AND WATER RIGHT NOW!
.....
GYAAAAH!
AND YET, HER OWN WELL-BEING SEEMS TO BE THE LAST THING ON HER MIND.
SHE SPARES NO EFFORT WHEN SEEING TO MY NEEDS.
THAT IF YOU CANNOT TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, YOU WILL SURELY MEET AN EARLY DEATH.
HUH?! WHERE'D THE BUTTON GO?
EVEN A LOWLY STRAY CAT KNOWS...
AH, WHATEVER, IT'S FINE.

?
WAFT
SANDAL
!!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
IF I REMAIN HERE, THEN THE BOTH OF US ARE DOOMED TO PERISH.
IT WOULD BE WISE TO ESCAPE THIS PLACE.
-BYEEEE,-YUKICH!!
HM? THAT HUMAN... SHE'S CARRYING A GARBAGE BAG...
TODAY MUST BE GARBAGE DAY!
WHAT LUCK!
I MUST SEIZE THIS OPPOR-TUNITY AND LEAVE!
PEEK
TURN
RUSTLE
!!
KER-CHAK
OH!
WHAT WON-DERFUL WEATHER WE'RE HAVING.
SHWP

SQUISH
SQUEEZE
♪
HEH.
I SHALL HELP HER TAKE OUT A BIT OF TRASH.
WELL THEN, I SUPPOSE AS A SMALL ACT OF GRATITUDE FOR TAKING ME IN...
DASH
FREEZE
WHAT ON EARTH AM I DOING?!
OH MY.
WHY AM I TRIUMPHANTLY TROTTING BACK TO THAT DUMP?! I NEED TO--
SHWP
EVEN A CAT COULD DO THIS. I SUPPOSE I COULD TAKE ONE MORE...
WELL THAT WAS EASY!
HEH HEH!

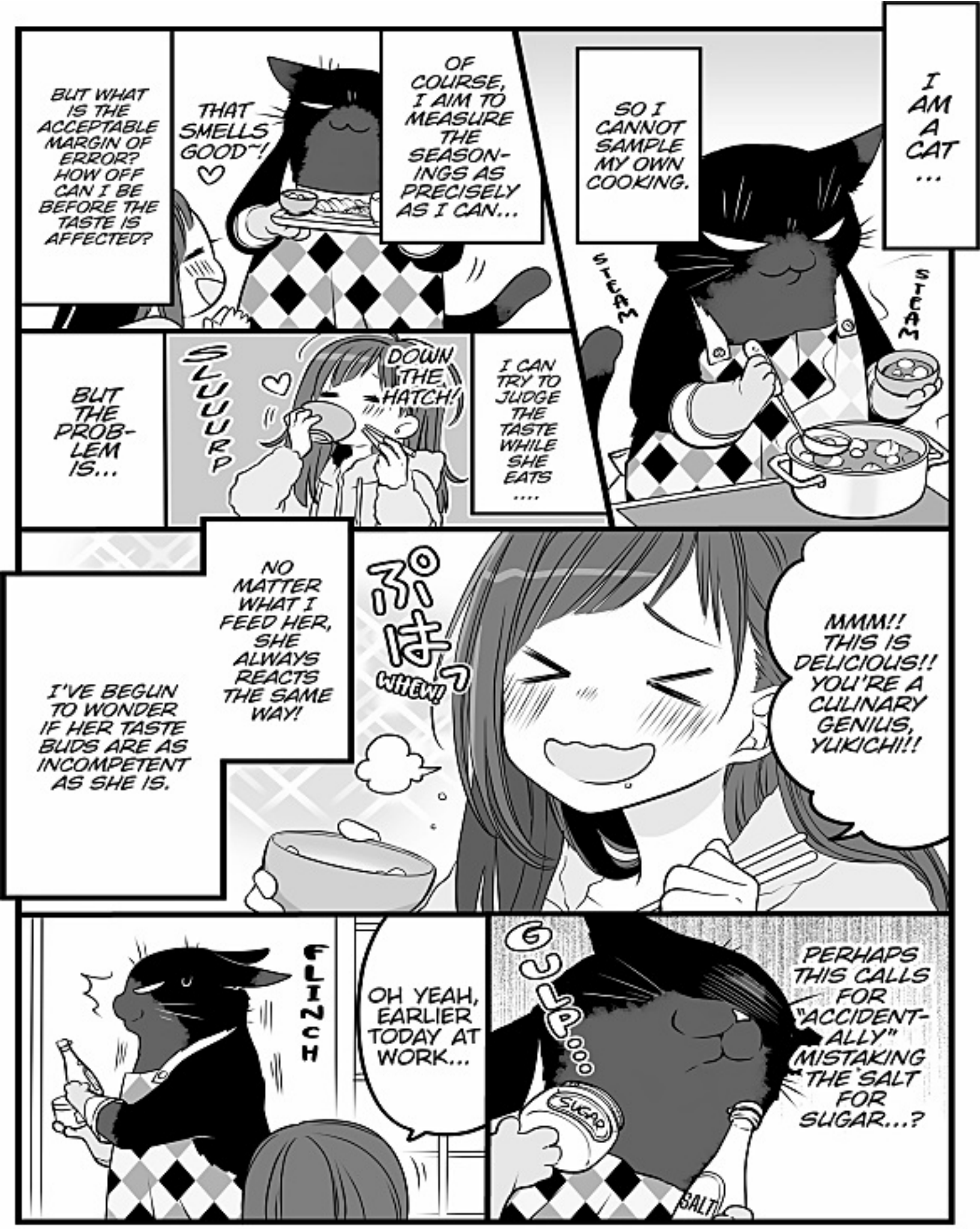
I SHOULD CLOSE THIS FOR HER.
PLEASE DO.
THE HUMAN'S NAME IS "SAKU."
SO...
IT'S BECAUSE OF ALL THIS MESS. FOR GOODNESS SAKE!
SAKU-CHAN LEFT HER DOOR OPEN, SILLY GIRL.
I SHALL REMEMBER THIS NAME.
SAKU.
AFTER THIS...
WE MAY NEVER MEET AGAIN.
IF YOU'VE GOT NOWHERE ELSE TO GO, WHY NOT COME HOME WITH ME?

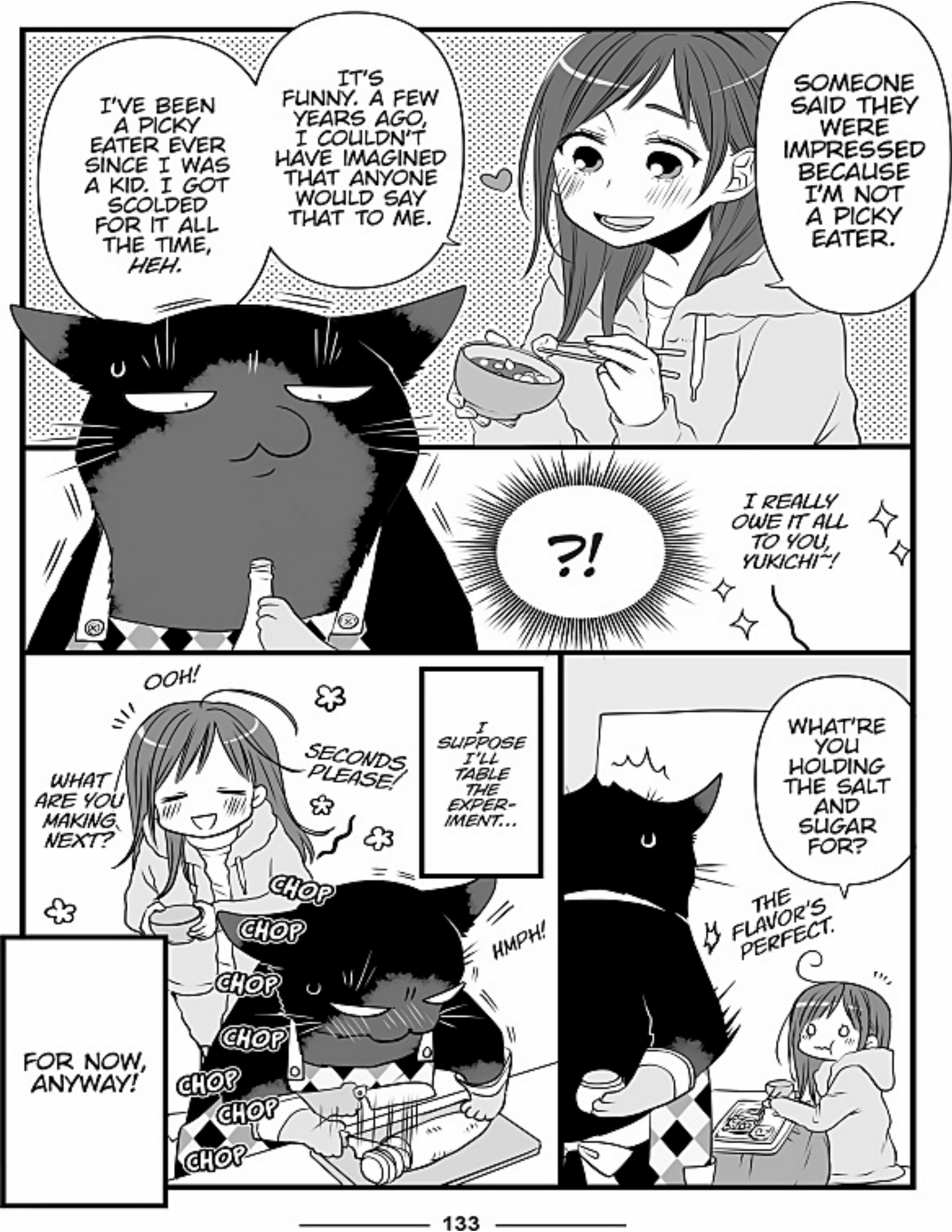
DID I JUST SEE SOMETHING SLIP INSIDE?
?
KER-CHUNK
ZOOM
PHEW...
I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT THAT HUMAN'S STUPID FACE....
AND MY BODY SEEMED TO MOVE ON ITS OWN.
HUFF!
PUFF!
WHAT WAS THAT?
YUKICHI'S HOME
AH... THAT'S RIGHT.

THIS IS MY HOME NOW.
BUT TO TAKE MATTERS INTO MY OWN PAWS.
I HAVE NO CHOICE...
I WON'T ALLOW HER TO SUFFER THIS FATE.
IF YOU CANNOT TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, YOU WILL SURELY MEET AN EARLY DEATH.
I BOUGHT A TON OF FOOD AND STUFF FOR YOU.
すっ WIPED
うん OUT
I'M HOME, YUKICHI.
IT'S ALL FOR TOMOR-ROW'S CAN OF FOOD!
FIRST, I MUST BE ABLE TO OPEN THAT DOOR ON MY OWN!!
MAYBE IT'S A GROWTH SPURT?
YOUR APPETITE IS GETTING BIGGER AND BIGGER LATELY!
DIG IN!
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
BUT MAKE NO MISTAKE, YOU USELESS HUMAN...

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today


BUT WHAT IS THE ACCEPTABLE MARGIN OF ERROR? HOW OFF CAN I BE BEFORE THE TASTE IS AFFECTED?
THAT SMELLS GOOD~!
OF COURSE, I AIM TO MEASURE THE SEASONINGS AS PRECISELY AS I CAN...
SO I CANNOT SAMPLE MY OWN COOKING.
I AM A CAT ...
STEAM
STEAM
BUT THE PROBLEM IS...
SLUURP
DOWN THE HATCH!
I CAN TRY TO JUDGE THE TASTE WHILE SHE EATS ....
I'VE BEGUN TO WONDER IF HER TASTE BUDS ARE AS INCOMPETENT AS SHE IS.
NO MATTER WHAT I FEED HER, SHE ALWAYS REACTS THE SAME WAY!
ふぅはぁ
WHEW!
MMM!! THIS IS DELICIOUS!! YOU'RE A CULINARY GENIUS, YUKICHI!!
FLINCH
OH YEAH, EARLIER TODAY AT WORK...
GULP...
SUGAR
SALT
PERHAPS THIS CALLS FOR "ACCIDENTALLY" MISTAKING THE SALT FOR SUGAR...?


I'VE BEEN A PICKY EATER EVER SINCE I WAS A KID. I GOT SCOLDED FOR IT ALL THE TIME, HEH.
IT'S FUNNY. A FEW YEARS AGO, I COULDN'T HAVE IMAGINED THAT ANYONE WOULD SAY THAT TO ME.
SOMEONE SAID THEY WERE IMPRESSED BECAUSE I'M NOT A PICKY EATER.
?!
I REALLY OWE IT ALL TO YOU, YUKICHI~!
OOH!
SECONDS PLEASE!
WHAT ARE YOU MAKING NEXT?
I SUPPOSE I'LL TABLE THE EXPER-IMENT...
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
HMPH!
FOR NOW, ANYWAY!
WHAT'RE YOU HOLDING THE SALT AND SUGAR FOR?
THE FLAVOR'S PERFECT.

Always
I love Egg
No Life No Cook

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today

story and art by **HITSUZI YAMADA** VOLUME 3

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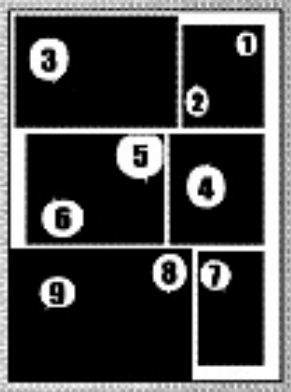
READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



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Separation Anxiety

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TEEN (13+)

Saku's been able to skip the biennial company retreat every time so far, but not this year! While she's out, her cat Yukichi will be watching the house, of course, but how long can Saku go without Yukichi's meals and warmth? And while Yukichi appears nonchalant about sending Saku off, how does he actually feel? The messy office worker and skillful cat are spending their first night apart, and boy, are they in for a long one!